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Middlebury
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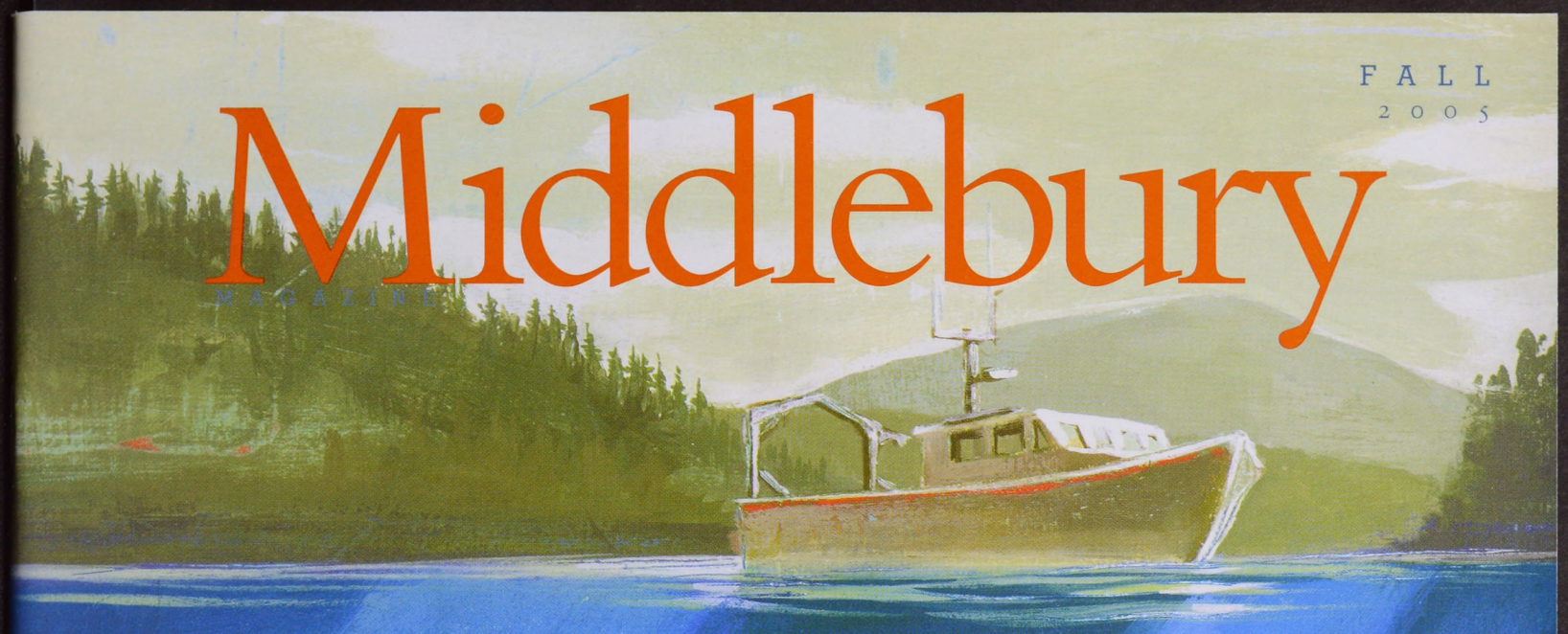

What Lies Beneath

A decade-long effort by Middlebury researchers to map the floor of Lake Champlain has yielded valuable information—and led to a few shocking discoveries.

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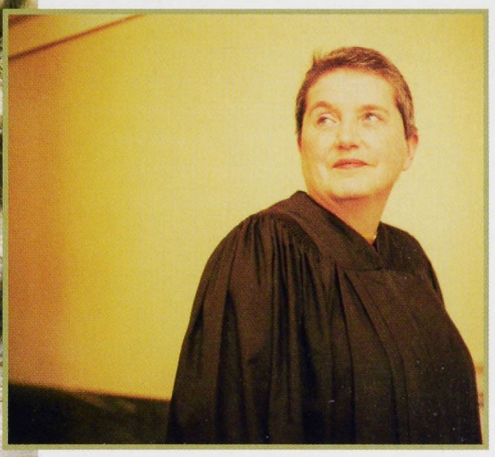

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In Katrina's Wake

For a pair of Tulane students, a fall unlike any other.

Sarah Atkinson and Matt White never thought they'd be anywhere but New Orleans this fall. Juniors at Tulane, Atkinson and White anticipated cheering on the Green Wave football team, wearing shorts into November, taking classes to fulfill their majors (neuroscience and German for Sarah; math and economics for Matt), and serving as resident advisers for freshmen arriving on a campus that is less than a mile from Bourbon Street.

Even when hurricane Katrina cut a swath through the Florida Keys and began its slog through the Gulf of Mexico in the direction of New Orleans during the last week of August, Atkinson and White didn't give much thought to an evacuation—much less an autumnal relocation. "To be honest, up until Friday [two days before Katrina made landfall and a mandatory evacuation order was declared], we hadn't heard anything about the hurricane," Atkinson says. "We were really stressed about getting the new dorm ready"—Atkinson softly chuckles at the irony—"and really, it seems we get hurricane warnings every fall." On Saturday, Freshman Move-In Day, Katrina had been upgraded to a Category Three hurricane and appeared to have New Orleans square in its sights. By 11:00 that evening, Tulane announced that the university was closing, and the dorms were to be evacuated.

White and Atkinson jumped into a car with a handful of friends and headed due east on Interstate 10, bound for Florida, where they planned to wait out the storm. While spending most of their time glued to the Weather Channel, emotions swung from euphoria (Monday: "New Orleans dodged a bullet") to despair (Tuesday: "The levees had breached and the city was flooding"). With nowhere to go, they drove through the night on Tuesday to Atkinson's parents' house in Washington, D.C. Within days, they began searching for alternate places to study for the fall semester.

"At first, I was in denial," White says. "For about a day, I was insistent on returning to Tulane by September 15. But then I realized that there was nothing to return *to*." A family friend—Jessica Singleton '08—encouraged White to look at Middlebury, and though Atkinson had never been to New England and White had only ventured to the North Country once (as a youngster), they arrived on campus, with seven other students displaced by the hurricane, in time for the start of classes on September 12.

"Going from an urban environment at Tulane to a small college in a classic New England town is kind of like going abroad to study," White laughs. "But if you ask any of our friends"—who are at places like Cornell, Northwestern, and Columbia—"no one is as happy as we are."

Atkinson says that she was initially skeptical about taking neuroscience classes at a college, rather than at a university, but she quickly found that she had nothing to worry about. "We actually get to work with mice here, which may not sound like a big deal, but it is," she says. "At Tulane, the grad students steal all the mice for their work."

Atkinson says that her parents plan on visiting this fall—"They weren't going to come down to Tulane, but now that I'm in New England …"—and White says, that while they look forward to returning to Tulane in the spring, they're really enjoying their time in Vermont.

"We went apple picking on Sunday," he says with a smile. "How cool is that?" —*MJ*

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Photograph of Matt Jennings by Bob Handelman

Blast from the Past

What a nice surprise to see the feature article profiling Philip Hamilton '82 in the latest Midd magazine (summer 2005). During my senior year in high school, I had the good fortune to meet up with a Middlebury student on a Greyhound bus from Boston to Middlebury. We enjoyed an animated conversation, ate a few slices of pizza, and listened to some music (I can still recall his enthusiasm for the harmonies in "Whenever I Call You Friend"). As we arrived in Vermont, the Middlebury student said something to the effect of, "Oh, yeah, you'll love it here." I have often thought back on that trip, thankful for the opportunity to attend Middlebury and wondering about that really nice guy with the great voice. Now I know. Philip, thanks for the ride and the advice. You were right.

Tom Palmer '85
Wilmette, Illinois

Success Story

What a pleasure to see Philip Hamilton '82 on your cover, and to remember sharing the stage with him and a talented campus cast in a Midd production of the musical of Studs Terkel's *Working,* in Wright Theater (1981, I think). Philip played the Car Parker (solo part) and I the Female Executive (chorus). Dana Morosini Reeve '84 played the Housewife, another showcase role, and she also went on to a professional performing career, winning acclaim for her many theater roles.

Although I am proud to continue my singing in Manhattan's 92nd Street Y Broadway Community Chorus, I and most of my *Working* colleagues have remained strictly amateur, but it's great to know that Philip has hit the big time.

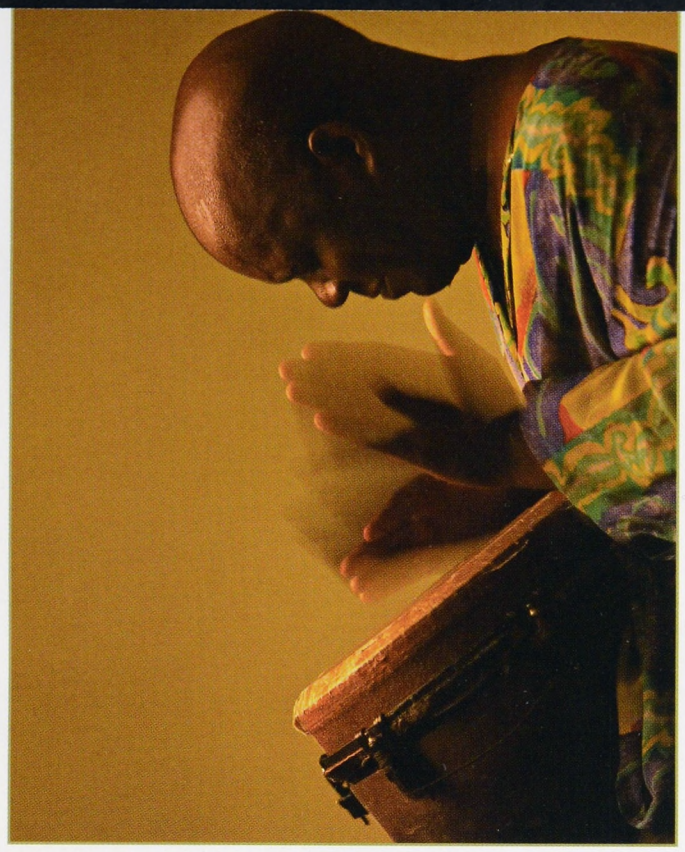
Based on my biased recollection, *Working* was a superb show with many strong performances: Perhaps there are other success stories out there?

Emma (Raleigh) Mayer '82
New York, New York

Disappointed

As an alumnus of Middlebury College, I was very shocked by the graduation day picture in the *Middlebury Magazine,* summer 2005 edition. Amongst the graduating class of 2005 were several graduates wearing red "handkerchiefs" over their mouths. I wholly respect their right to protest and disagree with the selection of the graduation speaker. However, I disagree with the author's viewpoint that "what protest there was was small and respectful." I believe that to do it in the manner they chose was disrespectful, immature, inappropriate, and selfish. Graduation day is supposed to be a time of rejoicing and celebration. I would ask those who wore the bandannas to take a good look at the picture in the magazine. Mixed in with the rest of the graduates are glaring "bandit-looking" individuals who seem more attired for a bank robbery. Their classmates look on and listen, happy to graduate from one of the finest liberal arts colleges in the nation, yet they are surrounded by those who do not have the courtesy and respect to save their protest for a more appropriate setting, hopefully done with less spite and juvenility, but rather with class and dignity! I am embarrassed and disappointed that educated, liberal-minded people would stoop to such a measure. Guys, you let your classmates down, and of all days—graduation day!

Robert F. Smilari '93
Miami Beach, Florida



MEMORY LANE
Readers fondly reminisce about time spent with summer cover subject Philip Hamilton '82.

Errata

I was pleased to note that *The Red House,* the new book by Sarah Messer '88, was being reviewed in the magazine I received today. It is embarrassing and regrettable that the reviewer, Regan Eberhart, was not more careful and that there was no fact-checking by editorial staff. Sarah's parents are Ronald and Pat "Scout," not Nina (who was Ron's first wife). It is hard to believe that Eberhart even read the book since Scout's picture is on page 27, and it is very clear throughout the book what Sarah's mother's name is. (I have not gone through page by page, but I would be very surprised if Nina's name even appears in print.) What makes this gaffe even worse is that Patricia Watrouse Messer is also a Midd alumna, class of 1960. Her classmates gathering for their recent reunion were thrilled to celebrate with Pat and Ron over Sarah's book and the much-deserved recognition it has received. You owe the Messer family a huge apology!

Nancy Mumford Mulvey '60
Andover, Massachusetts

Ed. We deeply regret the error. The incorrect name, taken from a list of family members that appears in the book, was inadvertently transposed with Patricia Watrouse Messer.

PHOTOGRAPH BY BOB HANDELMAN

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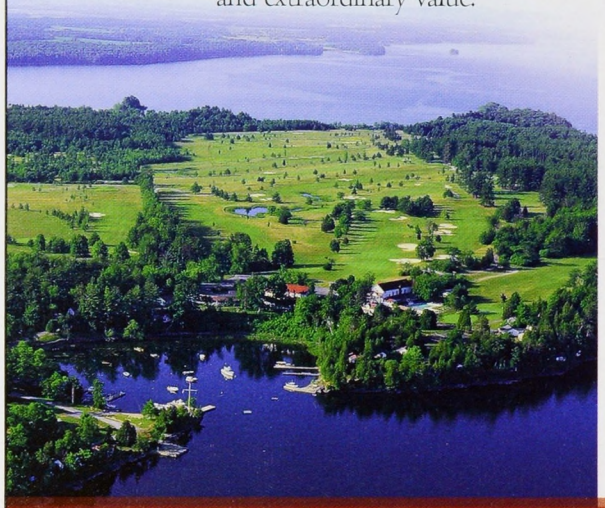

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Submit the Evidence

President Ronald D. Liebowitz deserves credit for trying to impart a fresh twist to the stale rhetoric normally associated with addresses to graduating seniors ("Make for Yourself a Teacher," summer 2005). But his lavish assessment of the education that students received during their four years at Middlebury consists merely of claims. They're not supported by any evidence that would pass muster beyond campus.

This skeptical view takes on increasing importance in today's era of accountability in education. Today, the focus is exclusively on K–12. But two years ago when the Higher Education Act, which governs most federal student-aid programs, was up for renewal, Congress was considering the use of standardized tests to determine if students were learning what administrators were claiming.

At that time, the House Education and Workforce Committee visited selected college campuses across the country to gather data about instructional effectiveness. The justification then was that taxpayers were investing billions of dollars annually in higher education and were entitled to know what kind of return they were getting. In today's global economy, that question is even more pressing. President Liebowitz may be correct in what he says about the education that Middlebury students receive. But until he produces hard evidence to support his assertions, no one can be sure. To maintain credibility, he owes all stakeholders in the process that much.

Walt Gardner '57
Los Angeles, California

It's About Time

As enthusiastic about American literature as many of the last issue's letter writers, I have to disagree with the alarming number of responses published that do not favor the merging of the Am Lit and English departments. This is not a recent or shortsighted debate. As a senior in 1995, I served as a student representative on a faculty committee that was debating this same shift. What impressed me then, as it still does today, is the astounding pride that professors of both departments take in their work—they are wonderful teachers who invest their lives in the instruction of literature. For some faculty members to suggest that this process was bullied through simply is not true.

It is also frustrating that the very professors who so adamantly cling to the traditional Am Lit model are long-tenured professors who refuse to teach the survey courses that form the significant foundation of the major. This leaves the tiny core of newer department members, whose field is American civilization, to teach these core courses over and over throughout their tenure at Midd. In 2004, there was only one Am Lit major crossing the stage at Commencement; in 2005, only a handful. I'd prefer a future department that is invested entirely in the instruction of literature. The core of the Am Lit major, including its wonderful survey courses, will continue to exist in the new Department of English and American Literatures. Students will have the same opportunity to concentrate their passions in American literature, but will have a wider range of qualified professors to teach them.

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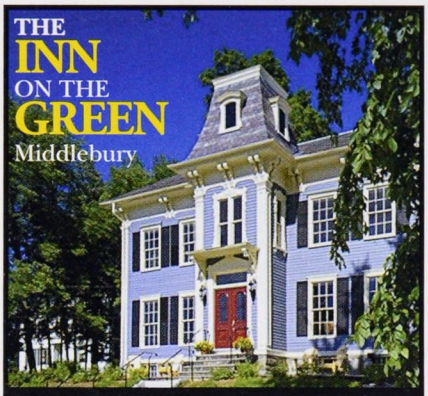

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As a high school English teacher, I am grateful for the philosophical and literary foundation I received from the Am Lit department. I am also glad that I was encouraged by my adviser to stretch my course work beyond my major and into English for an even wider foundation that has prepared me for graduate school and teaching. In my 10 years as a teacher of literature and humanities, I have had the pleasure of teaching a survey course in Am Lit only once—I started three days ago—and it's a blast. Yet the core of the curricula has stretched across ancient to modern literature from all over the world. Such is the more global nature of English departments today—a significant evolution that allows for wider-than-American perspectives that I hope one day will filter not only into our high school English departments, but into our national politics.

I regret that the prospect of this merger has created such division, where once-intimate colleagues and alums have descended into name-calling Grangerfords and Shepherdsons. I hope more people who love this department and the College as much as I do will view this change as an opportunity for Middlebury professors to continue to improve and excel at what they do—the teaching of literature.

Jennifer Ryan Onken '95
M.A. English '05
York, Maine

Nonsense

I have just read—unfortunately, tardily but I hope not too late—the article "To Merge or Not to Merge" in the spring issue of *Middlebury Magazine*, and I have one simple question to those to whom it may concern: *Have you taken leave of your senses?*

Middlebury was a pioneer in recognizing American literature as a separate discipline and has every reason to be proud of—and to build on—this heritage. Incidentally, I was wrong. I have further questions, all corollary to the lunacy noted above. Do we not have Thoreau's copy of *Walden*? Was not Doc Cook a brilliant professor of American literature and a man of passion, dedica-

tion, and empathy, indeed, without exaggeration, nobility? Have we not forgotten the shy and remarkable Viola White, our own Partridge in a Swamp, whose *Vermont Diary* is a gem, an insightful and poignant memoir, a masterpiece of lapidary poetic prose? Have we forgotten the significant ties of Robert Frost to Middlebury and Bread Loaf?

To abolish the Department of American Literature and Civilization would be, in my view, to destroy one of the most glorious academic pillars of Middlebury. I realize we do not have money like the University of Texas, which can buy any literary collection it wants. But we can have unmatched excellence in scholarship. We can build on our trailblazing heritage in American literature so that the department becomes a magnet for the finest students, professors, and writers. I want the future shining lights in the field to be able to say proudly: "Yes, I went to Middlebury."

Constantine M. Broutsas '49
Brattleboro, Vermont

Why Not Three?

The division over "To Merge or Not to Merge" left me with two thoughts: What do the students want? Why can't there be a third major in the end, "American Literature"? With Middlebury's breadth of faculty and courses, surely extinction is not necessary if students wish the major!

Con Brosnan '69
San Diego, California

Points for Both Sides

After reading all of the letters on this subject, I was struck that none of the authors quite realized the complexity and difficulty of this question. Their tendency to avoid specific examples from the worlds of literature and teaching and their overemphasis on the political aspect of the question struck me as the wrong approach. There is much to be said on both sides of the argument.

When I majored in English at Middlebury, I found several of the professors (Paul Cubeta, David Littlefield, and Robert Pack) to be more sophisticated than their counterparts in the Am Lit department. They did not hesitate to bring in nonliterary disciplines and authors outside their department to place their subject matter in context. And this included American authors! Professor Pack sponsored a senior thesis on Theodore Roethke and introduced me to at least one poem by Frost not included in Am Lit survey. In contrast, the two Am Lit courses I took gave me the impression that the department was rather hidebound in approach, more concerned about the kind of binders papers were submitted in than, say, in comparing American Transcendentalism with British Romanticism. Horace Beck, in particular, was a clown who should not have been let within a mile of a survey course; his contribution on Henry James was to compare him to a bowl of zinnias! I had a general sense that the department tended to shun many difficult authors within their own field (e.g., Gertrude Stein, Hart Crane, John Ashbery). The English department taught *Ulysses*—though, admittedly, not *Finnegans Wake*.

On the other hand, the arguments about the uniqueness of the experience of an Am Lit major at Middlebury are not to be taken lightly. Though I was not a major myself, the fact that the Am Lit department and major existed gave me a sense of the uniqueness, gravity, and value of this area of human endeavor. And if this was true 40 years ago, it's far more so today! Since I graduated, we have had Pynchon's *Gravity's Rainbow,* Ashbery's *Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror,* Jorie Graham's *The Errancy,* to give three examples from thousands. Only Britain has produced as much great literature. Two courses in Am Lit would barely be scratching the surface; 20 would not do our literature justice.

My conclusion is that Middlebury should keep the Am Lit department separate but try to ensure that the members of the department possess the level of sophistication and flexibility characteristic of the best English professors from my day.

William P. Michaels '66
Hillsborough, New Jersey

Small Stakes

The overwrought letters dissecting the proposed merger of the English and American literature departments published in the summer 2005 issue of *Middlebury Magazine* brought to mind the wry comment of a former teacher of mine, "The reason academic politics are so bitter is that the stakes are so small." The College will be just fine, whatever the appellations of its departments, as long as faculty remain fully committed to:

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1) the business of the classroom; and 2) scholarly inquiry. The business of the classroom is rigorous teaching, testing, and grading. Scholarship is demonstrated through authorship of peer-reviewed publications in high impact journals and with top-tier publishing houses. Academic collegiality, though always welcome, is not essential.

I disclose, happily, that I was an English major.

Ware Kuschner '85
Pacifica, California

Look at the Numbers

There has been much invective-hurling and aspersion-casting over the proposed changes in the teaching of American literature at Middlebury. Former students mourn the loss of childhood or divine sinister culture war motivations on the part of people they have likely never met. Senior professors try but fail to hide their feelings of personal and professional betrayal behind points of academic principle, parliamentary procedure, and warnings of apocalyptic consequences for the study of American letters. Alums are invariably fueled by nostalgia or paranoia, neither of which serves the needs of today's students. The dissenting professors, as much as I sympathize with their plight, offer lucid critiques of the process but no answers to the challenges that led to the proposed change.

There is much to regret in the loss of my department, on both a personal and philosophical level: professional relationships and long friendships severed, a department unique within the academy retired. Yet few critics seem to have thought much about the practical reasons or greater context for the realignment. Professor Millier has a phone. How many angry, grieving alums talked to her before lighting their Molotov cocktails and hurling them in her direction via this magazine's letters column? Has it occurred to you that she might be sincerely doing what she can to maintain the significant study of American literature at the College? The minority bloc lost the departmental vote, but if this magazine is any indication, they have done a bang-up job of shaping the post-vote debate through their scorched-earth public relations campaign. While their righteous indignation has been loud and eloquent, that doesn't necessarily make it right. After all, Don Quixote threw himself at windmills with unmatched conviction. The senior members of the department may feel they have no other recourse, or nothing left to lose, but I believe they have generated enormous heat at the expense of precious light.

When I was an Am Lit major (1989–93), the department was robust, thanks in large part to the efforts of Professors McWilliams and Donadio. They deserve great credit for maintaining and improving the department I inherited. As my adviser and teacher, Professor McWilliams made me a better student and, I hope, a better person. However, the department that he, Donadio, and others so bitterly defend today has not existed in practice for some time. I graduated 12 years ago with a dozen fellow majors. In recent times, one could count the number of Am Lit majors in a given year on one's hand. Diplomas handed out in 2005 included just two inscribed with the words "American Literature."

As noble as it might be, the ideal of the Am Lit department requires a stream of students and faculty eager to participate. Be dismissive of "national trends," but those trends have real causes, and reality can't be denied forever. While Midd students continue to flock to Am Lit courses as electives, today's Midd Kids simply aren't buying the department. What's more, many of the College's current Am Lit/Am Civ professors, who were forged in very different fires than their departmental forebearers, can't be eager to sell a departmental curriculum firmly rooted in the worldviews of the 1920s. And why should they? McWilliams and Donadio plainly feel that they have been tricked by a younger generation of teachers more interested in cultural studies than Am Lit, but a loud "NO" is not a solution; it's a denial. Would they force the existing department to continue despite lack of interest? Replace the current faculty? Does a next generation of McWilliamses even exist? If Middlebury couldn't recruit them in the past 20 years, I think I know the answer. Blaming "the 1960s," identity politics, moral corruption, or intellectual fads might make some feel better, but such answers are lazy, self-aggrandizing cop-outs. They don't explain an Am Lit reading list virtually unchanged in 50 years. They don't acknowledge the possibility that academic movements evolve over time for valid reasons. They don't come to terms with the plain fact that no other school followed Middlebury's lead in anything resembling a sustained way. The dissenters relentlessly complain that no incoming student will be required to read any specific American

author, but they avoid the fact that students in the new major may choose two-thirds of their courses in American writers. That doesn't sound like the death of anything to me.

Millier said in this magazine that she wanted to protect the teaching of literature. As department chair in 2005, she must face realities that McWilliams and Donadio, from their self-imposed exile, are free to pretend don't exist or matter. Let's assume the American civilization professors strongly wanted their own department. If Millier doesn't take Am Lit over to the English department, where does it go? Should two teachers instruct two students and call it a department just to keep two other people happy? Legend has it that our Am Lit department was birthed in personal turmoil and politics, as Reginald Cook threatened to leave and take Robert Frost with him unless he was given his own fiefdom. It is tragic that it must end in the same spirit of acrimony.

Cole Odell '93
Brattleboro, Vermont

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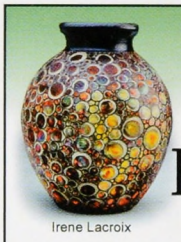
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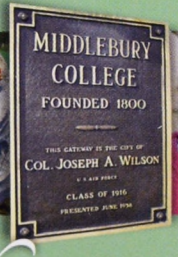

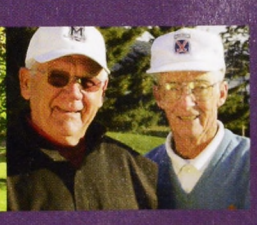

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Academic Wars

The vehemence of the protests in your summer issue of *Middlebury Magazine* to the merger of the American literature and English departments and the limited number of letters expressing support for the move surprised me. I was an American literature major who graduated from Middlebury in 1948. It was at that time a very popular major, whatever a student's professional goal might be. I studied under that unusual student of Emerson and Thoreau, Reginald Cook '24. But more important for me was the counsel of Howard Munford '34, who encouraged me to go on to graduate school in American studies.

I am one of the Am Lit alums who was contacted by the present faculty in American literature this past year to lend my voice to those objecting to the proposed curricular move. I well understood their concern, for it was a proposal that threatened the careers of some faculty and dared to suggest a change in something that ranked up there with Gamaliel Painter's cane as a symbol of Middlebury College. But I have to confess that I wrote back telling them that my experience as a veteran of many academic wars, I had problems with alumni, out of a fit of nostalgia, shaping a college's contemporary curriculum.

After attending the Bread Loaf School of English, I went on to the University of Pennsylvania to study in a graduate program the university called American Civilization. That program was a combination of American literature and American history. It was a fascinating course of study. But I also soon came to realize that it frankly lacked a central academic discipline or methodology. One either concentrated on literary criticism or literary history (which inevitably brought any student of American writing back to its roots in English literature), or one became a student of American social and cultural history and, at most, focused on the historical context of Cooper, Thoreau, Dreiser, et al. After one year at Penn, I made the momentous leap of moving over to a broad study of American history. As a consequence, I would never get to teach a course in literature, but would, in the process of spending the next 50 years of my career in a history department, fuse into my American history courses, where appropriate, the insights I gained from Professors Cook and Munford.

What is apparent in the magazine story is that today the central academic discipline or methodology for American studies is probably something closer to the cultural anthropologist's approach. One is led in American studies to study a nation's—or people's—culture (note that small "c") and/or its "high culture." Clearly, one sees here the rise of the behavioral sciences in academic circles. They were in evidence in my days at Penn, but their victory (if one can call it that) is now more complete in such areas as history and American studies.

I do not completely reject this. If one is to study American life in any depth, one has to have some kind of disciplinary approach. American studies is, after all, a state of mind, and it all depends on how the scholar chooses to approach it.

Middlebury is clearly a much different place than it was in those post-World War II years. *Middlebury Magazine*—and even a casual walk around that beautiful campus—makes that point very clear. But I think it has risen to its present heights by its continuing commitment to scholarship, to good teaching—and to *change*. May it ever be so.

Daniel R. Gilbert '48
Nazareth, Pennsylvania

The writer is a professor of history, emeritus, at Moravian College.

Am Lit Betrayed

One might hope the president, trustees, or committee of the faculty would step in and block the ill-conceived effort to abolish Middlebury's distinguished tradition of American literature and its long-valued major.

This destructive plan, and the shabby procedures to advance it, is an intellectual embarrassment. They are an offense to orderly college governance, as well. The surge of protesting letters to the magazine, and the striking testimony of Middlebury professors, make this abundantly clear.

That a quick twist of academic politics can suddenly, in effect, dismantle a major course of study, dissolve an accredited department, rebuff serious dissent, evade exposure, and then high-handedly and casually connive to divide the spoils as a sub-program elsewhere should concern everyone, including alumni and friends.

Are departments at Middlebury so vulnerable to aggrandizement and self-interest? Is this an acceptable way to initiate the profoundest "rearrangement of the College's curriculum in nearly a century"? What precedent is set? What standards for change? For truly serious review? Has *Middlebury Magazine* been any help—with its bland, glib, deceptively slanted presentation of a subject far more complicated than it permitted itself to study? (Articles in the undergraduate *Campus* have been more creditable and informing, in my opinion. A student vote, by the way, heavily favored the retention of American literature.)

The loss of Middlebury's unique comprehensive curriculum in American literature will sorely disappoint (and disturb the loyalty of) myriad alumni—especially the majors and nonmajors deeply

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influenced for their lifetime by the committed teaching of legendary professors Reginald Cook and Howard Munford, or of their successors John McWilliams and Stephen Donadio. Today, in contrast, American literature at Middlebury is betrayed and trivialized by faculty originally appointed to sustain it. These include even the present occupant of the "Reginald L. Cook Chair." The irony is devastating and disheartening. So is the level of bitter division and resentment among faculty and alumni.

At stake is the intellectual and administrative integrity of the College. What happens will indelibly brand the tenure of the new president. It will long affect the character of the College in the new century and the attitude of alumni toward it.

John H. Hicks '41
Carmel, California

The writer is the president emeritus of the Robinson Jeffers Tor House Foundation.

Facts of the Case

I write to provide some factual information to help Middlebury alumni understand the ongoing campus discussion about restructuring the study of literature in English at the College. Beginning with a proposal generated by the faculty in the Department of American Literature and Civilization in the spring of 2004, the two affected departments each voted overwhelmingly (7–2 and 11–3) to pursue these changes: the transformation of the English major and department into English and American Literatures; and the transformation of the current Department of American Literature and Civilization into a more fully interdisciplinary American Studies program. We all acknowledge the loss of the separate major in American literature, an honorable tradition at Middlebury which served the College and its students well for more than 60 years; but we also welcome the multiplication of contexts in which current students will be able to study American texts—among other literature in English in one department, and in cultural and historical context in the other. I anticipate no significant reduction in the teaching of American literature at the College. We will continue to offer a two-semester survey of major texts in American literature every year, and we all welcome the chance to teach courses which offer American, British, and other Anglophone texts alongside one another. In addition, I wish to state clearly and unequivocally that the requirements of the proposed English and American literatures major *will* allow for the in-depth study of American literature. In the new department, students would be allowed (but not required) to take as many as six of their eleven major courses in American literary subjects.

I strongly believe that these proposed modifications to the curriculum will strengthen, not diminish, the study of American literature at Middlebury. The College's distinguished tradition in American literary studies will continue only as faculty gain opportunities to participate in the promising developments that characterize the field of American literature nationally. Certainly, unique fields of study can give a college's curriculum distinction, but not when, in the pursuit of uniqueness, accountability to national and international standards of scholarship and teaching is sacrificed. If the College is committed to maintaining its national reputation—if it wishes to attract nationally competitive faculty and students in the future—then we must ensure that our finest traditions, like the study of American literature, remain *dynamic* and *living* traditions. I and the vast majority of my colleagues support these proposed curricular changes in order to strengthen the tradition of teaching American literature at Middlebury.

Brett Millier
Cornwall, Vermont

The writer is the Reginald L. Cook Professor of American Literature and served as department chair from 1992–2004

Merge Physics and Hockey

American literature was a focus of mine at Middlebury, although it was not my major. The passion demonstrated by professors Munford, Cook, and Beck for their subject matter was infectious and seductive and engendered in me a lifelong reading habit.

American literature comes out of—and is an expression of—American culture. It's the literature, in other words, of where we live and has no more to do with English literature than with anything else. Merging these two departments would be ridiculous. A modest proposal: merge physics and ice hockey; at least in that case there'd be a direct connection.

John Pindyck Miller '60
Brewster, New York

A Passionate Preference

As an Americanist, a former English department head, and the professor responsible for starting the American studies program at Oklahoma State University, I read with both understanding and trepidation your story in the spring 2005 *Middlebury Magazine* of the proposed merger of the American literature and English departments.

Because most universities and colleges continue to increase the variety and number of new "area" offerings required for graduation, students find it a logistic nightmare to schedule classes that meet graduation requirements in a timely fashion. Students drop classes on impulse, fail to recognize that departments cannot offer required courses on demand, and if they miss a required class because it is overenrolled or cancelled, they may find themselves waiting another two years for a class they need for graduation. Advisers substitute one class for another to solve the problem, but students end up with a watered-down plan of study.

On the other hand, while the pattern of a college world run by money moguls may make colleges look more successful and, therefore, a more attractive draw, Middlebury College has always prided itself on its image as *sui generis*. Because the American literature major is the only one of its kind, to destroy it for expediency is a mistake. While the chair supports the merger because she wants "literature to be read as literature," at the same time she argues that the "reasons for the creation of a separate major are being challenged in the national field, which is rapidly moving toward cultural studies" and then admits that her American literature colleagues are "more focused on the study of American culture."

continued on page 81

CONTRIBUTORS

KEITH ARNOLD '95 ("Northern Exposure," p. 24) is a photographer in Washington, D.C.

JOSHUA BROWN ("A Bug's Life," p. 28) is a writer in Burlington, Vermont.

DENNIS CURRAN ("Got Ice?" p. 26, "A Bug's Life," p. 28) is a photographer in Waitsfield, Vermont.

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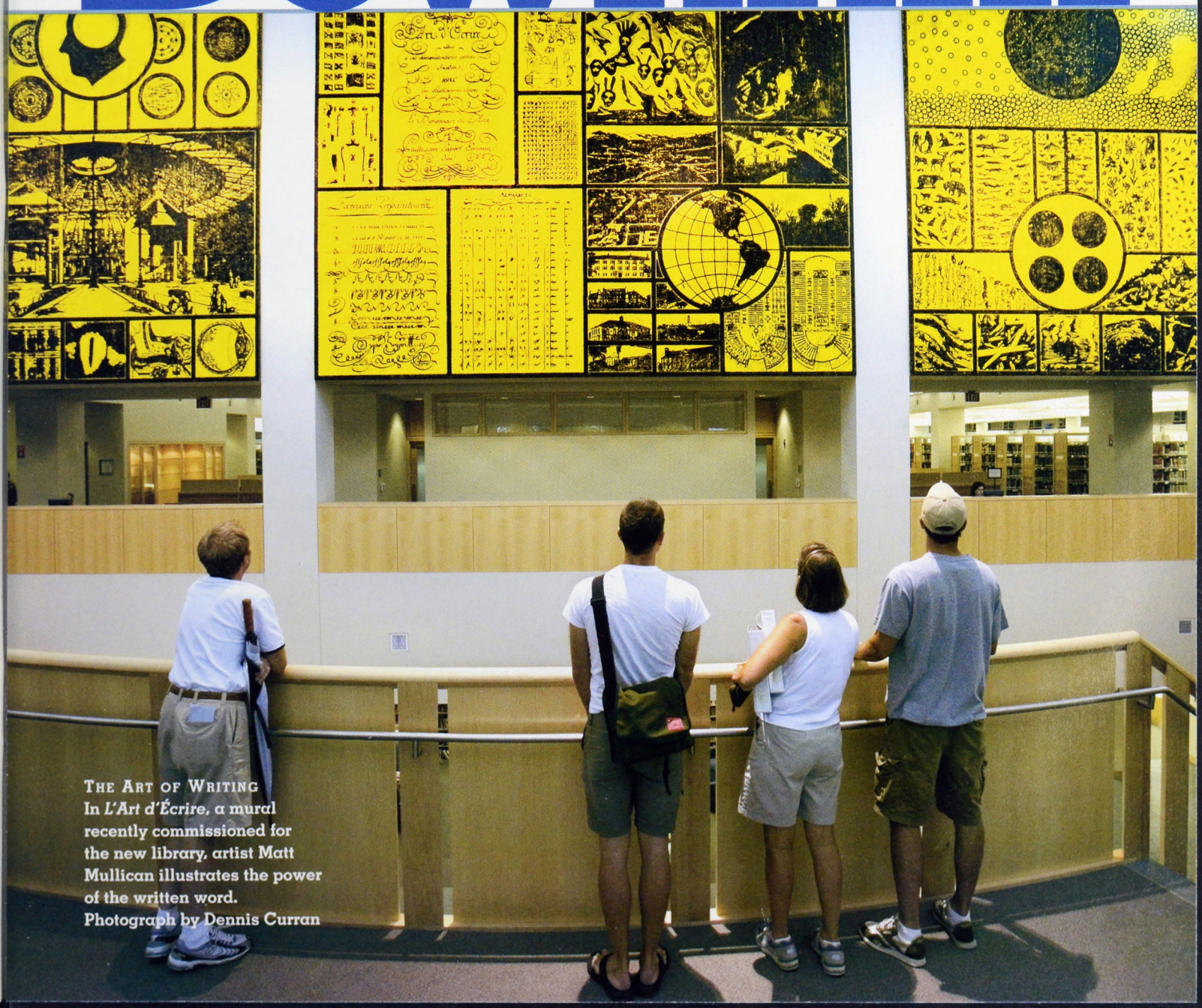


THE ART OF WRITING
In *L'Art d'Écrire*, a mural recently commissioned for the new library, artist Matt Mullican illustrates the power of the written word.
Photograph by Dennis Curran

Remembering Katrina

ON A MISTY, MUGGY SEPTEMBER DAY, with the air temperature balancing on that fine line between cool and warm, jazz was played on the hill in front of Mead Chapel.

With local pianist Dick Forman tickling the keys of a piano that had been carted outside for the occasion, 100 or so people milled around and chatted in groups, their conversations muffled by the jazz melodies emanating from a pair of speakers mounted on eight-foot-tall stands and positioned like sentries on either side of the sidewalk that snakes down from Mead to Old Chapel. At precisely 12:15 P.M., President Ronald D. Liebowitz approached a podium that had been positioned on the sidewalk to face uphill, toward Mead Chapel.

The president was the first of five speakers for a noontime community gathering on a day that had been designated a national day of prayer by President Bush. After acknowledging the devastation wrought by hurricane Katrina and the ongoing crises the country faced, Liebowitz urged those in attendance to remember that all had not been lost. "Many of you probably know something about the tradition in New Orleans of a jazz funeral," he said. "The musicians begin their procession with traditional music—slow, dignified, and mournful, but by the end they are playing loud, joyous, energetic tunes. Today, in our own way, we will follow that pattern: beginning in grief and solemn remembrance, but ending with hope, reaffirmation, and celebration of all that is good."

WORDS OF COMFORT Middlebury chaplain Laurie Macaulay Jordan '79 spoke of healing, compassion, and hope on a national day of prayer in the wake of the hurricane Katrina tragedy.

And what followed was just that: Associate Dean of the College Marichal Gentry read from the writings of a Southern minister; Emily Peterson '08, a resident of Metairie, Louisiana, read from John Donne ("No man is an island"); a moment of silence was held; a hymn was sung by the Middlebury choral group; Brittany Burnett '09, from Daphne, Alabama, read from Langston Hughes's "Daybreak in Alabama"; the College's chaplain, Laurie Macaulay Jordan '79, spoke.

Many were lost in thought. Others wept. "And now," Jordan said, "let's listen to the sound of the region as we mingle and move on." And, once again, jazz was played on the hill in front of Mead Chapel.

Open Doors

Nine students from New Orleans-area colleges, displaced by hurricane Katrina, are attending Middlebury this fall. The College is not charging the students—eight from Tulane University and one from Dillard University—tuition, asking instead that they pay their home institutions their usual fees, to help their colleges in the recovery process.

"Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with the people of New Orleans and surrounding areas," President Liebowitz said in September. "It's imperative that we, as an educational community, do our best to reach out to students, their families, and the affected colleges and universities in this time of need."

While the students are at Middlebury, Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson will serve as their academic adviser. Each of the nine was also assigned a student host; more than 200 Middlebury students volunteered to serve as hosts for the visiting students.

In addition to hosting students, the College created a Katrina Relief Program that would allow Middlebury employees to volunteer in the Gulf Coast region for up to four weeks, while maintaining their benefits and half of their salary. And the chaplain's office created a special hurricane relief Web site—*www.middlebury.edu/campuslife/services/chaplain/katrina_relief.html*—that would facilitate donations to a number of charitable organizations, including the American Red Cross, AmeriCares, and the Humane Society of the United States. By the end of September, members of the Middlebury community had used the site to contribute nearly $20,000 to relief organizations.

To read more about the students displaced by Katrina, please see "Viewfinder" on page two.

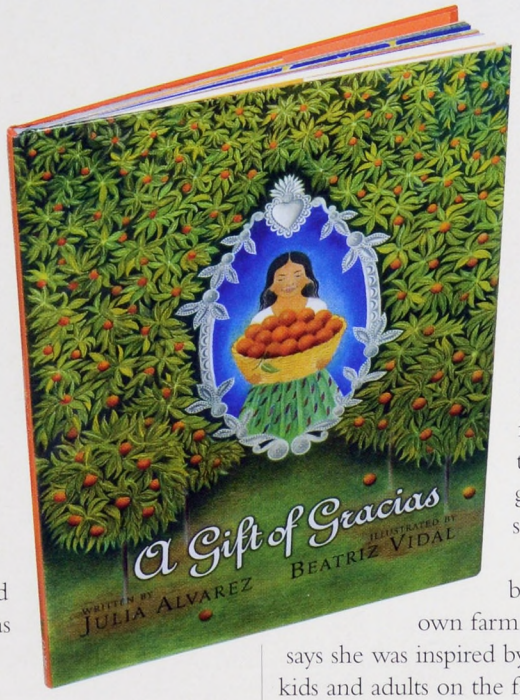
PHOTOGRAPH BY VLAD LODOABA '06

Quote/Unquote

"Please don't jump out of a moving vehicle. It seriously hurts."

—Fulbright scholar Dena Simmons '05 blogging from the Dominican Republic. Her blog, Don't Jump Out of Moving Vehicles, can be found at http://deanbean13.blogspot.com/

Faculty Shelf



MARIA WANTED A SIMPLE THING: for her family to remain on their olive farm in their new home. But the olive trees that had flourished in their native Spain were struggling, and her father had to go to the city to look for work. One night, Maria dreamed she was planting orange seeds, and she heard a voice telling her to say *gracias*. Her heart filled with "sweetness" as she gave thanks, and an orchard burst forth with "hundreds of small suns." Standing beneath the boughs was a beautiful woman, Our Lady of Altagracia, or Our Lady of "High Thanks" or "High Grace." The next morning, Maria's family planted orange seeds on their land, saying *gracias* as they planted. The orchard grew quickly and abundantly.

Like many Dominican girls, Middlebury writer in residence Julia Alvarez '71 was named after the Virgin of Altagracia. (Her parents called her Julia Altagracia.) Alvarez made a promise that one day she would write a book about her namesake and protector. *A Gift of Gracias,* with lush, vivid illustrations by Beatriz Vidal, is her promise fulfilled. In this magical book for young readers, Alvarez weaves the legend of the Virgin of Altagracia with the story of Maria's family and the state of thankfulness that restored their lives.

In an era of relentless self-indulgence, Alvarez's message of thankfulness seems particularly valuable. "There is a very special grace that comes from gratitude," Alvarez says, "from saying thank you, from wanting to spread the grace of our gifts wherever we find ourselves."

Alvarez traces her interest in children's books to working with people on her own farm in the Dominican Republic, where she says she was inspired by the picture books she used to teach the kids and adults on the farm to read. *A Gift of Gracias,* published by Random House, is available in English and Spanish.

—Regan Eberhart

Go Figure

5,254
Number of students who applied to Middlebury in 2005

1,241
Number of students admitted for fall enrollment

24
Percentage of students admitted for fall enrollment

26
Percentage of students admitted for fall enrollment in 2004

555
Number of first-years enrolling this fall

77
Number of international students in the Class of 2009

42
Countries represented by the Class of 2009

47
States represented by the Class of 2009

6.5
Percentage of first-years who are children of alumni

6
Percentage of first-years who are from Vermont

75
Percentage of first-years who are not from New England

84
Percentage of first-years in the top ten percent of their high school class

1
First-year students on Japan's national ice hockey team

1
Number of first-years who have had their poetry published in the *New Yorker*

PHOTOGRAPH BY TAD MERRICK

A Lesson from Bessie

If Kerry Krauss '06 has her way, women between the ages of 35–45 will owe a lot to the ovaries of the common cow.

Krauss—with help from Laura Batterink '07 and Suzanne Czerniak '06 and under the tutelage of biology professor Catherine Combelles—is using cow eggs to explore why women older than 35 have more difficulty conceiving than younger women. By collecting and testing the oocytes—cells that develop into an egg—from bovine ovaries at different stages of maturation, the researchers are discovering the influence of oxidative stress on the cells. (The students are hoping to determine how varying levels of stress during an oocyte's maturation will ultimately affect the egg's viability.)

"My interest in this area stemmed from a summer research project I did with mouse eggs," explains Krauss. "I was being trained to handle and analyze oocytes." Once she mastered those skills and returned to Middlebury for her junior year in 2004, she decided to further her research with oocytes and turned to Professor Combelles for guidance.

"This work is important on several levels," explains Combelles, "among which are the treatment of human infertility and of birth defects, as well as the production of animal embryos—whether for the preservation of genetic material in, for instance, endangered species, or for breeding programs."

Since human oocytes are hard to come by, Krauss and her colleagues turned to a more accessible mammalian donor—cows. "The cow, like humans, typically ovulates a single egg," explains Combelles. "And the estrous and menstrual cycles are similar in length and characteristic to a human's. Because they are so readily available, the cow is an ideal model for human oocyte biology."

Combelles and her students collect the necessary samples from bovine ovaries at local slaughterhouses and bring them back to the lab, where they dissect and isolate the oocyte cells for incubation in various cultures over a 24-hour maturation period. After the cells have matured into eggs, the students process and analyze them to determine how different factors affect the oocytes' viability for developing into a healthy embryo.

According to Combelles, who refers to her summer research students as the "Ova Squad," Krauss and her colleagues will contribute significantly to oocyte biology by amassing preliminary data for ongoing research. "While many great advances continue to be made in the study of human oocytes," Combelles says, "a critical need prevails to test these new techniques in animal models so that we can fully and confidently assess their effectiveness and safety."

—Blair Kloman, M.A. English '94

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School Runs Like Butter
4th

Men's Fitness
America's Fittest Colleges
Honorable Mention

Fittest Small College
1st

Golf Digest
Best Colleges for Golf
11th—Women
22nd—Men

(Golf Digest divided the lists into two categories: "Golf First" and "Academic First." Middlebury was in the "Academic First" category.)

Photograph by Digital Vision/Veer

Do the Right Thing

Not only does Middlebury run like butter, it does so with a conscience. The folks at the Princeton Review, the college guidebook gurus who join the annual college-ranking frenzy with proclamations such as "Best Overall Academic Experience for Undergraduates," "Professors Get High Marks," and "School Runs Like Butter" (all Middlebury accolades this year), have tapped Middlebury as one of 80 institutions considered a "college with a conscience."

Last year, more than 1,500 students, faculty, and staff volunteered nearly 64,000 hours of community service and raised more than $310,000 for local and national nonprofits. *Colleges with a Conscience*—which was published in conjunction with Campus Compact, a national coalition of more than 950 college and university presidents committed to furthering public service in higher education—specifically highlights the College's commitment to social service and the high level of service-learning opportunities offered to students.

"We are very proud of the differences our students make in local, national, and international communities," explains Tiffany Nourse Sargent '79, director of Middlebury's Alliance for Civic Engagement. "They contribute their time and energy to volunteer with numerous organizations—from Vermont's Special Olympics to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life to working abroad in impoverished areas." Sargent estimates that more than half of Middlebury's students were engaged in community service projects or service-learning programs last year. "When students enroll in Middlebury's service-learning courses, such as those that explore the local economy and environmental issues, they also deepen their understanding of how their class work can directly address community needs," adds Sargent.

According to Princeton Review's Spencer Foxworth, who edited the book, potential applicants can use the guide to further assess the schools they're considering for their college careers. "This is the first time we've published such a guide, and we certainly see opportunities for expanding it as an annual resource," says Foxworth. "Community involvement is of growing importance to students, and this guide can really help them gauge a school's commitment—both in and beyond the classroom."

"A college with a conscience," adds Robert Franek, vice president of publishing at Princeton Review, "has both an administration committed to social responsibility and a student body actively engaged in serving the community. Education at these schools isn't only about private gain; it's about the public good."

—*BK*

Tilting at Windmills?
In celebratation of Cervantes' masterpiece, instructors and students from Middlebury's summer Spanish School staged a public reading of *Don Quixote*, in which the epic was read—in Spanish—from start to finish. The reading, which took place in various locales across campus, occurred over a 48-hour span.

Photograph by Dennis Curran

Frequent Flyers

AT THE START OF EACH SEMESTER, they appear to sprout like mushrooms on the forest floor after a soft rain. One day the bulletin boards that dot the campus are open and bare, the next they're chock full of colorful flyers and posters, promoting everything from international studies lectures to Dissipated Eight auditions. So, how to stand out among a crowd? Bold colors are one way. Catchy slogans are another. See if you can match the following slogans with their corresponding organizations and events. *(Pulled from actual flyers posted in the McCullough Student Center.)*

1. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY
2. COME SEE THE NEW BREASTS OF DAVE WRANGHAN
3. ART IS REVOLUTION
4. COME SIGN WITH US
5. THIS IS OUR COACH—HE'S CRAZY
6. CHALLAH BACK

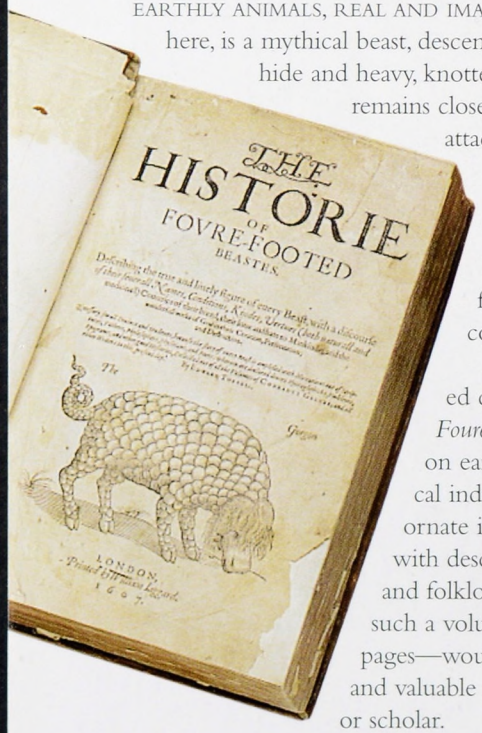
A. SIGN LANGUAGE CLUB
B. FALL DANCE CONCERT AUDITIONS
C. HILLEL'S FIRST SHABBAT
D. MIDDLEBURY RUGBY
E. VITALITY OF THE ARTISTIC COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
F. OTTER NONSENSE

Answers: 1. B, 2. F, 3. E, 4. A, 5. D, 6. C

Special Collections

"These Gorgons are bred in that countrey, and have such haire about their heads as not only exceedeth all other beasts, but also poysoneth when he stand upright. Pliny called this beast Catablepon, because it continually looketh downeward, and saith that all parts of it are but smal excepting the head which is very heavy, and exceedeth the proportion of his body which is never lifted up, but all living creatures die that see his eies."

—Edward Topsell, *The Historie of Foure Footed Beastes*



SO BEGINS EDWARD TOPSELL'S WEIGHTY ENCYCLOPEDIA OF EARTHLY ANIMALS, REAL AND IMAGINED. The gorgon, pictured here, is a mythical beast, descended from Medusa, with a scaly hide and heavy, knotted mane. Its head is heavy and remains close to the ground until it is attacked or alarmed; whereupon, its mane stands on end, exposing eyes so frightening and breath so terrible that any living creature in its path falls into "lethall and deadly convulsions."

Topsell, a Cambridge educated curate, published *The Historie of Foure Footed Beastes* in 1607. Based on earlier bestiaries and zoographical indices, the book combines ornate illustrations of each animal with descriptions based on both science and folklore. By 17th-century standards, such a volume—approaching 800 pages—would have been an expensive and valuable possession for the scientist or scholar.

Middlebury purchased a rare first edition last fall, as part of an initiative to establish the College's Special Collections as an integral part of the curriculum. The impetus to obtain *The Historie of Foure Footed Beastes* came from Associate Professor of English Timothy Billings, a Shakespeare scholar.

"Timothy approached me with the proposition to purchase a first edition of Topsell's book, promising to create a whole class around it," says Andy Wentink '79, Special Collections librarian. "The purchase of such a significant book sends the message to faculty and students alike that we consider such useful materials imperative to our holdings.

"Middlebury is not in the rare-books business," he adds. "But we are very much in the business of building a rare-books teaching collection."

Last January, Billings created a winter term course centered upon *Beastes*. Though digital editions of Topsell's book exist online, Billings felt that having a physical copy on hand would greatly enhance students' understanding of Elizabethan perspectives. "When working with an original edition of a book, students gain much more than content-based information," he says. "There is a distinct sense of wonder surrounding the tactile experience of simply handling such a text."

—*Grace Kronenberg '06*

PHOTOGRAPH BY TAD MERRICK

Food for Thought

WHEN *MEN'S FITNESS* MAGAZINE recognized Middlebury as the fittest small college (see "Measuring Middlebury," p. 20) it also proclaimed that Middlebury was the college at which students ate the least fast food. "Students at überhealthy Middlebury College hit the drive-thru less than once a week," the magazine reported. "Our take: Middlebury students truly are living the fit life."

So, just what are Midd students eating today? Magazine editorial assistant Grace Kronenberg '06 and Tim Foley '06, a defensive lineman on the Panther football team, jotted down what they ate during the course of a day in mid-September.

Grace

9:10 A.M. (Ross Dining Hall)
Three hard-boiled egg whites with salt and pepper
One and a half pieces of toasted pumpkin bread with cream cheese
Water

1:05 P.M. (Proctor Dining Hall)
Toasted ham and gouda sandwich
Bowl of spicy chorizo and black bean soup

1:15 One stale cracker

1:23 Small vanilla/chocolate-twist creemee in sugar cone

4:42 York Peppermint Pattie

6:22 (Proctor Dining Hall)
Two slices sundried tomato bread, dipped in olive oil and balsamic vinegar
Sautéed yellow squash
Two chicken breasts with red peppers and feta
Scoop of white rice
One glass of lemonade with club soda

6:41 Cup of Earl Grey tea with cream and honey
One slice of raspberry napoleon

7:05 Second cup of Earl Grey tea with cream and honey

7:21 Small handful of peanuts and chocolate chips

11:17 Six chocolate-covered cherries

11:54 Two chocolate-covered cherries

Tim

9:15 A.M. (Atwater Dining Hall)
Toasted English muffin with peanut butter
Bowl of applesauce
Bowl of Golden Grahams (no milk)
Glass of water
Glass of cranberry juice

12:30 P.M. (The Grille)
Chicken quesadilla with extra chicken
Snapple raspberry iced tea
Bag of pretzels

6:30 (Atwater Dining Hall)
Four chicken breasts
Two scoops of rice
Salad (lettuce, carrots, Russian dressing)
Glass of iced tea
Glass of water

10:30 Gatorade
20 grapes
Handful of Planters nut-and-chocolate trail mix

Bread Loaf, Southern Style

NEXT SUMMER, Middlebury's Bread Loaf School of English will venture into the mountains of North Carolina, opening a campus at the University of North Carolina at Asheville. The North Carolina site will be Bread Loaf's fifth campus—joining the University of Oxford in England; St. John's College in Sante Fe, New Mexico; the University of Alaska Southeast in Juneau; and, of course, its original site in Vermont.

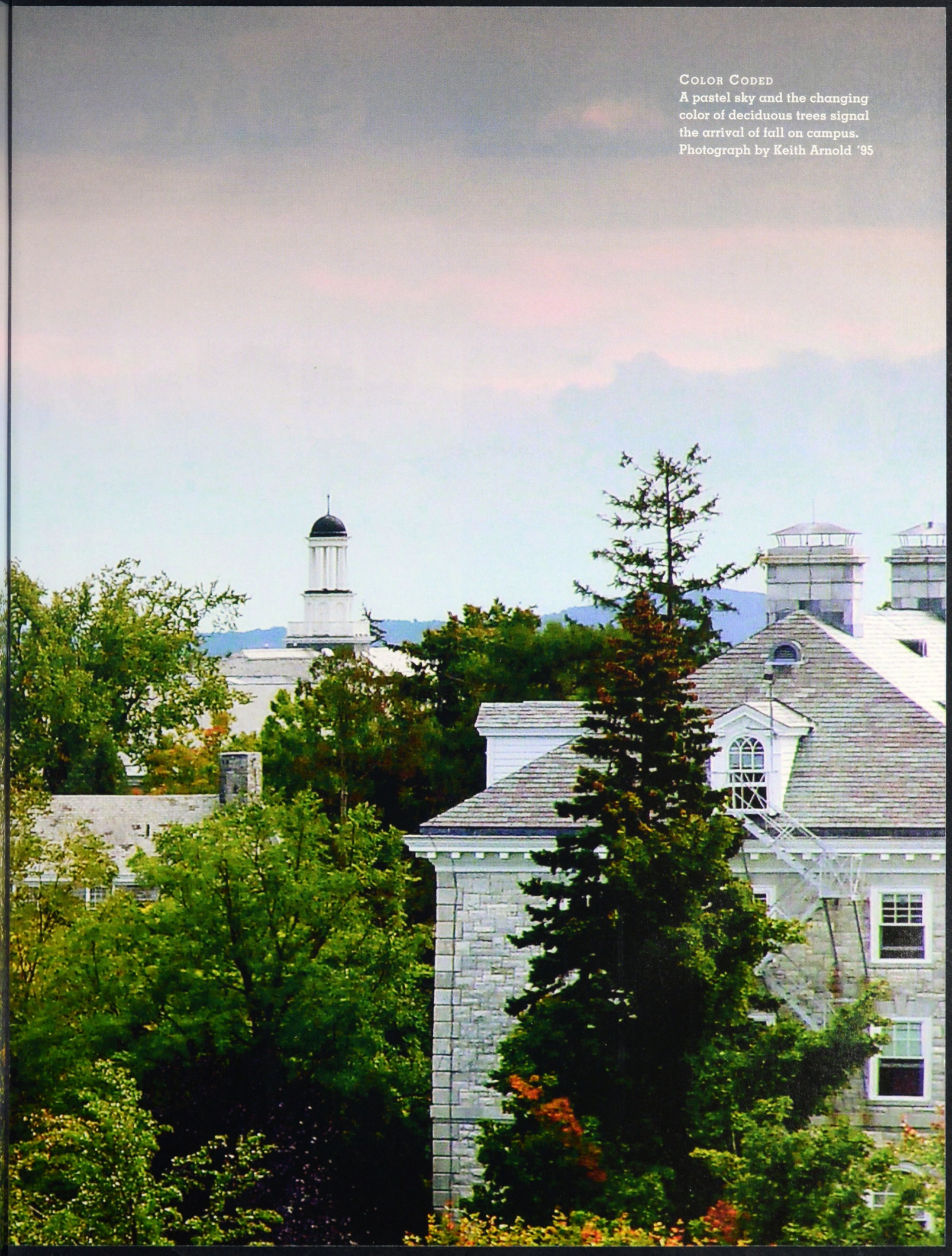
Because curricula of all the non-Vermont Bread Loaf campuses reflect the unique qualities of their locations, the program in Asheville will offer a special emphasis on Southern and African American literatures.

Poetic Endurance

NOT TO BE OUTDONE BY THE SPANISH SCHOOL and its public reading of *Don Quixote* (see p. 21), the classics department sponsored a marathon reading of its own this fall. During the last days of September and the first days of October, students and faculty gathered on the steps of the library to read Homer's epic poem the *Iliad*. Unlike the *Quixote* reading, however, the *Iliad* was read in English and didn't take place around the clock. Still, with a pair of nine-hour weekend sessions, readers demonstrated a level of verbal endurance equal to any of the ancient Greek orators.

The classics department hopes to make such readings an annual event.

ILLUSTRATION BY DEB LUCKE



Color Coded
A pastel sky and the changing color of deciduous trees signal the arrival of fall on campus. Photograph by Keith Arnold '95

Got Ice?

While the world of sports medicine is rapidly evolving, there are still the old standbys.

By Tim Etchells '74

On a warm Wednesday afternoon in late September, the combination MASH unit and office suite that serves as the headquarters for Middlebury's sports medicine department is filling up with football and rugby players. The men's soccer team swept through an hour ago, as the team prepared for a home game with Colby-Sawyer. The women's soccer players swarmed in before that, on their way out of town for a game at Keene State.

Dave Matthews, head of the sports medicine department is taping both ankles for Phil Ford, a senior cornerback on the Panther football team. Matthews applies small pads of synthetic gauze at the front and back of the ankle, then wraps foot and ankle, up about nine inches from the bottom of the foot, with similar material before applying the intricate windings of white athletic tape that can often mean the difference between a sprained ankle and a healthy one for most athletes at the end of a vigorous two-hour practice.

"We go through about 150 cases of white athletic tape each year," Matthews says. A case contains 32 rolls, and each roll is 10 yards of tape. That adds up to about 27 miles of tape. When told that sounds like a lot of tape, Matthews points out that, as recently as 1987, the training room used 375 cases, or 68 miles. Because taping healthy ankles is no longer considered mandatory, they use far less tape today.

About five minutes after he's begun, Matthews has Ford's ankles fully taped, and the defensive back bounces off the training table and heads for practice, to be replaced by the next student in need of attention. This time it's a female rugby player with a sore wrist. For the next several seconds, Matthews whips a roll of tape around the affected joint. Next up is a football player with a recently separated shoulder. Matthews wraps a huge ACE bandage around and over the shoulder, around the torso, and back around the shoulder again until it is snug. Another player has turf toe, a painful sprain of the joint between the foot and the big toe. Yet another has patellar tendonitis, and Matthews applies two pieces of tape to tweak the tendon just below each kneecap.

Another football player has an ugly blister on his big toe. Matthews picks a clear blob out of a small plastic tub, tapes it onto the blister. The label describes this as Spenco's Second Skin. ("This stuff is 80 percent water, and it costs $30 a jar," Matthews says. "Sometimes I think I'm in the wrong business.")

That's a Wrap
During the academic year, the sports medicine facility is a constant hive of activity. Athletic trainers often work 70-hour weeks and perform up to 17,000 procedures a year.

Photograph by Dennis Curran

In another corner of the room, men's soccer player Derek Cece '06 pedals steadily on an exercise bike, a large bandage above his left eye covering a nasty cut received in the team's last game. Unsure about whether Cece may have received a minor concussion in the collision that caused the gash, the training staff is testing his reaction to exercise.

There was a time—not so very long ago—when the role of an athletic trainer was essentially limited to supplying ice and taping an ankle. Not anymore. Matthews, who began working at Middlebury in 1981, says that the training room staff now performs up to 17,000 procedures during a given academic year, ranging from applying ice packs to helping with rehab exercises to hooking up a student-athlete to an electrical muscle stimulator or an ultrasound machine. And that number does not include taping ankles.

In addition to Matthews, the College's sports medicine staff includes Sue Murphy, a University of Vermont grad who is the physical therapist, now in her 30th year at Middlebury; Kelly Cray, associate athletic trainer, who joined the staff in 1992 after graduating from Castleton State College; and Rachel Eldredge, an athletic trainer with a master's in health management who arrived in January 2003. Also working with the department are Dr. Mark Peluso, team physician and director of the College's Parton Health Center, and Dr. Ben Rosenberg, an orthopedic surgeon who does a weekly session with athletes.

The training room staff now performs 17,000 procedures during the academic year—and that number does not include taping ankles.

Parents are also paying more attention to the role of the training room staff, Matthews says, and tours of the field house for prospective student-athletes now typically include a stop in the training room. "Both students and their parents are better informed, more knowledgeable," Matthews says, "though that can work both ways. A kid gets hurt, and he and his parents will go out on the Internet and find information that tells them what's wrong and how to treat it. Then they come in here; we end up having to dispel some of the myths and preconceptions."

Some things haven't changed, Matthews points out. "Every kid is different," he says. "Some of them need us to hold their hands; some of them need a little kick in the butt, an attitude adjustment. Our job is to get them back in shape and out on the field. We don't have as much time for one-to-one interaction as we used to, but that's still a big part of the job.

"We have great relationships with alums. . . . We don't play favorites, but there are some students with whom you develop a special bond, and it lasts a lifetime. That's precious, and it's obviously one of the reasons we do this job."

It's clearly not the hours. During the fall, winter, and spring sports seasons, it's not uncommon for training room staff to put in 60 or 70 hours a week. A typical day for Matthews, for example, starts at 8:30, when he answers e-mail and returns phone calls. From about 10 A.M. to 2:30 P.M., roughly 40–50 students come in for rehab work. Then it's time to start getting teams ready for practice. Matthews works with the football team—which has 75 players—and once practice is over and he's seen the last student in need of post-practice treatment, it can be 7:30 or 8 P.M. before he's ready to head home. (As for away games, a football road trip can begin at 4 P.M. on Friday and not end until 11 P.M. Saturday.) The work seems to agree with Sue Murphy. To see her on the sideline during a men's soccer practice, you wouldn't guess she'd been at Middlebury for nearly 30 years. She wears a baseball cap, a dark-blue Panther windbreaker, shorts, and sandals. She's tall and obviously fit, with an athlete's posture; only the touch of gray in her dark hair gives her away.

"It's a fast-paced job, and it's always changing. One day is never the same as the one before," Murphy says, "and it's never boring. It can be frustrating at times, when a kid doesn't make the kind of progress you expect. . . . But they're young, and they typically do get better quickly.

"It can also be very rewarding. A kid gets hurt, you help him get better, and you watch him go back out on the field. He scores a goal, and comes over and says, 'That's for you.' That's hard to beat."

As a lacrosse player at Middlebury, Tim Etchells '74 learned that a tape job on your ankle will always extend one half inch above the area you shaved.

A Bug's Life

To further his understanding of the natural landscape, biologist Stephen Trombulak turns to one of the area's smallest creatures.

By Joshua Brown

Stephen Trombulak doesn't look up when a bird, concealed in a nearby thicket of saplings, starts singing an outlandishly long song: five, six, seven, eight seconds of connected trills and chirps. The Albert D. Mead Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies keeps his head down, the brim of his Boston Red Sox hat nearly touching a small Tupperware bowl he has just prized out of a hole in the soil. He peers into the container, one of five pitfall traps he dug into this mossy and fern-covered hummock earlier in the summer. A thin layer of dead insects floats at the bottom of the trap.

"Oh yes, we have a ton of beetles here," he says, pulling a pair of forceps out of his field vest and poking around in the brown ooze at the bottom of the container. "We've got some crickets, some slugs—I hate slugs—and this is one of the beetles I'm looking for, a carabid."

He picks up a spray bottle labeled "70% ethanol," and carefully rinses the contents of the trap into a plastic bag. "One in four named animal species are beetles," he says slowly, still gazing toward the ground. He labels the bag with a red grease pencil, replaces the container in its hole beneath a fern, covers the top, and pulls a compass out of his pocket to take a bearing for the next set of traps.

Then he looks up with a hint of a smile. "Did you hear that winter wren?"

Those who know Trombulak would not be surprised to find him here, in a soggy stand of spruce and birch on the western slope of the Green Mountains, studying wildlife.

But they might be a little surprised to see him—a *vertebrate* biologist, a teacher who likes to have his students down at Otter Creek at six in the morning to catch birds, a scientist with a reputation for concern about big creatures and big ideas—directing his attention to, well, small and spineless beetles. Today, even his beloved birds wait.

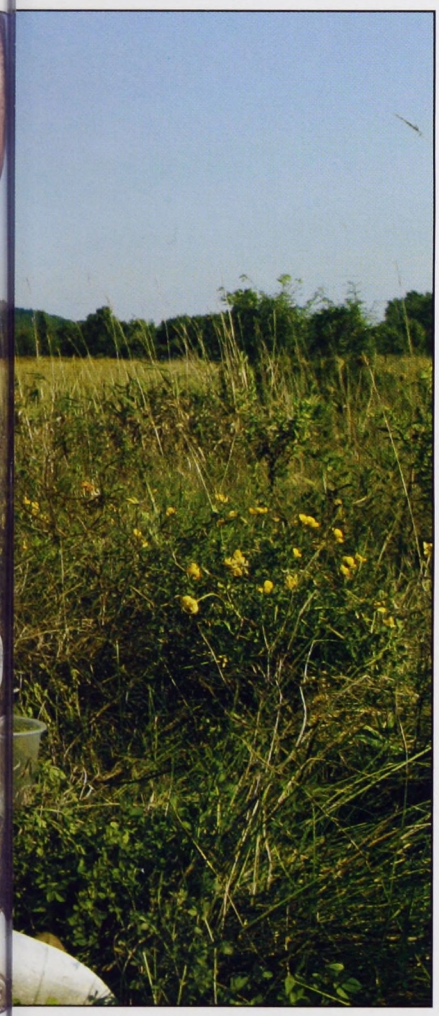
"We need to develop a conservation perspective for all organisms," he says, wending his way through the deep shade of this adolescent forest, "not just the ones that are showy or cute or cuddly." Trombulak's recognition that many of nature's processes are bigger than the range of human perception has helped make him a leader in the emerging science of landscape ecology. Take the winter wren as an example. Whether an individual winter wren has success hatching young birds in Vermont may be determined by what is happening

Photograph by Dennis Curran

Nature's Paradox
Stephen Trombulak has recognized that much of nature's processes are bigger than the range of human perception. And, sometimes, one must look at the smallest things to fully understand this.

to the surrounding thousands of acres or to its wintering grounds hundreds of miles away in the Southern states.

But if the big is hard to perceive, so too is the small. Bird watchers would be sure to notice if winter wrens stopped returning to Vermont, but how many would notice if a hundred species of beetles suddenly blinked out? Perhaps none, and yet the foundation of the wren's diet includes many beetles. "We'll probably



find that conservation will get a lot harder," he says, "if we look at the little creatures." Which may explain why so few conservation scientists do.

"Steve understands the woods in a way that very few of us do," said writer and Middlebury scholar in residence Bill McKibben. "He is an amazingly courageous, outspoken—though always rigorously scientific—champion for big wilderness in the East." And it's this passion, coupled with a scientist's inherent inquisitiveness that has led Trombulak to beetles.

"I could not credibly call myself an entomologist. I did one beetle project back in the Pleistocene," he says, his black tank top and tattooed shoulders making him, at age 50, look more like a member of Generation Y than a relict of the ice age. "One of the beauties of Middlebury is that you're encouraged to be broad, to make connections," he says. "Insects are fascinating, so I decided to retrain myself on beetles."

Beetles are nature's common laborers. They're just about everywhere on the planet (except in the oceans and at the poles), and with 350,000 named species, beetles are the most common of all animals. Though their roles in the economy of nature are indispensable—as pollinators, predators, scavengers, dung rollers, and soil makers—you would not know it from a meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology Trombulak recently attended in Brazil. "There was a tremendous focus on large-scale processes and big animals," he says, holding up a black speck in his forceps, a beetle the size of a pepper flake. "Out of a thousand presentations maybe 20 were on invertebrates."

The same bias against the small seems to exist close to home, too. "The recovery of Vermont's forests over the last 130 years is told as a success story. It's true the trees are back, and we've reintroduced some large animals. That's all great," he says. "Yet while we know how the trees are distributed across the landscape, and we have a reasonably good picture of mammals and birds, we don't have a good picture of what is happening to the little creatures." It is estimated that more than 5,000 species of beetles can be found in Vermont, each a cog in an enormously complex mechanism that we might best understand as a healthy forest, clean water, and clear air. And of the 5,000 beetle species, some 450 are in the family Carabidae, the ground beetles.

"Professional biology seems to think natural history and systematics are out of fashion," Trombulak says, following his compass straight toward a fearsome tangle of tipped-over spruce trees. Yet, as he knows from years of computer mapping and simulations, without this foundation of knowledge about the real organisms on the land, ecological models—and the conservation actions that result from them, like land purchases—can be badly off target.

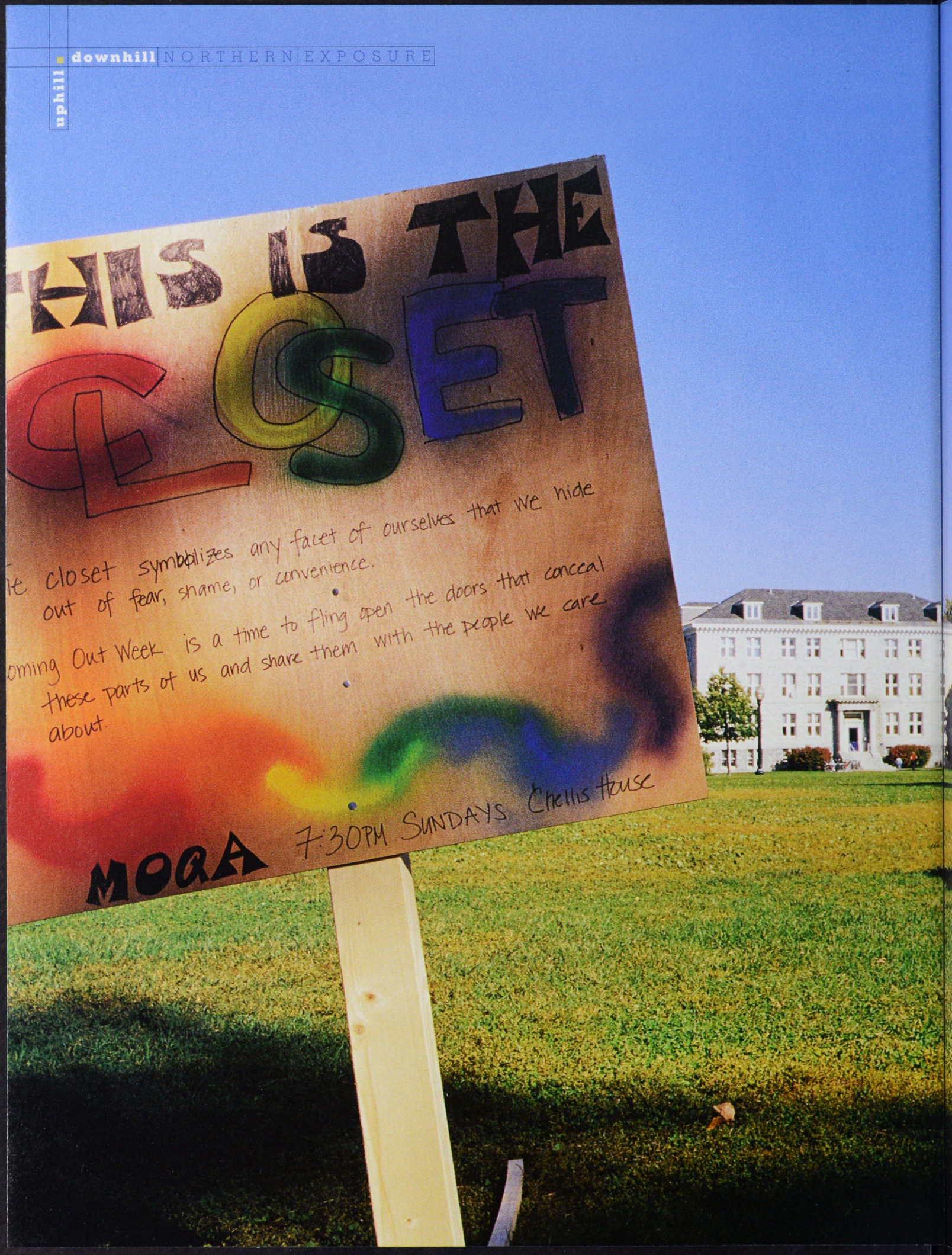
"If we are going to have reserves—land set aside from extractive uses like logging—that represent the diversity of life," he says, "we need to know how *all* organisms are spread across the landscape." Including beetles.

> **"If we are going to have reserves that represent the diversity of life, we need to know how *all* organisms are spread across the landscape."**

Several days later, Trombulak has holed up in a lab in McCardell Bicentennial Hall. In the stillness, the sound of a pin—sliding though the hard back of a dead beetle, then a tiny paper label, and into a block of foam—can be heard. Trombulak pencils a note into a logbook and then picks up his next specimen for pinning. "Look," he says quietly, and through the double lenses of a dissection microscope, a shimmering, breathtakingly beautiful, green and black beetle comes into view. "See that beanlike thing off the back leg? That's the enlarged trochanter. It's distinctive to the carabids."

Then he looks across the stone-topped lab table strewn with books like *American Insects Order 24: Coleopetera* and says, with just a hint of exasperation, "Wolves are flashy, but not everything in nature is a big carnivore."

A former senior editor at Wild Earth, *Joshua Brown is a freelance writer in Burlington, Vermont.*


THIS IS THE
CLOSET
ie closet symbolizes any facet of ourselves that we hide
out of fear, shame, or convenience.
oming Out Week is a time to fling open the doors that conceal
these parts of us and share them with the people we care
about.
MOQA 7:30PM SUNDAYS Chellis House

True Colors
Each fall, the Middlebury Open Queer Alliance organizes Come Out, Speak Out Week, an effort to promote an open conversation about gay and lesbian issues.
Photograph by Bob Handelman

It has spawned a cottage industry of writers' conferences, yet there's still nothing quite like Bread Loaf.

The Write Stuff

By Matt Jennings
Illustrations by Michael Witte

IN THE END, THERE WAS A TEAR.

It was a psychogenic lacrimation, an emotional tear that had escaped a young woman's left eye and slid, slowly, along the curved ridge where nose and cheekbone meet. As it crested the rise of her cheek, it picked up speed, sliding more quickly now, forces of gravity at work, streaking down her smooth face until it was in freefall, bound for the dusty floor of the Little Theater, where its journey ended with a simple, silent splash.

For 11 days, 280 people had put their regular lives—in their myriad forms—on hold to learn how to live one common life, that of a writer. They were promised exhaustion; they were warned to pace themselves; they were encouraged to lay bare their emotions; they were urged to confront their fears and acknowledge uncertainty; and they were exposed to the gamut of raw emotions inherent in such an endeavor.

All of which may explain the presence of the tear at the end of such a journey. Except it doesn't, not quite. But more on that later.

HERE ARE SOME FACTS ABOUT THE BREAD LOAF WRITERS' CONFERENCE:

It's the oldest writers' conference in the country, founded in 1926 and inspired by Willa Cather and Robert Frost, both faculty members at Middlebury's fledgling graduate school of English in the early 1920s. Frost and Cather believed that courses in compositional writing would fill an educational void in the graduate curriculum, and both cited Bread Loaf's mountain campus as an ideal location for such a pursuit. Though Cather was never affiliated with the writers' conference, Frost certainly was, spending 29 years on the mountain as a speaker and faculty member.

Frost was a trailblazer, his imprimatur on this novel idea attracting a legion of compatriots and literary offspring to the mountain each August. Sinclair Lewis, Bernard DeVoto, Wallace Stegner, and William Carlos Williams all left their mark on Bread Loaf. So, too, did Truman Capote, Eudora Welty, Carson McCullers, and Ralph Ellison. As did Norman Mailer, Joan Didion, Toni Morrison, and John Irving.

It is one of the largest writers' conferences in the country, as well, with participants, faculty, staff, and guests swelling the numbers to well over 300 and filling the Bread Loaf Inn and cottages during the literary fortnight.

The breakdown of attendees looked something like this: 19 faculty members, with several books each to their name, led workshops of 10 students—held every other day for two hours—in three genres: fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. The faculty was assisted by 23 fellows, a coterie of writers who had published at least one book each of fiction, nonfiction, or poetry. Fifteen scholars joined the fellows in leading classes on the craft of writing; typically, each scholar had published stories and poems in a number of publications and literary reviews. A little more than 30 people

served on the Bread Loaf staff. Staff members were essentially work-study employees—poets, essayists, and fiction writers who performed administrative duties, organized social events, and provided technical support in exchange for a waived tuition and free room and board. Several staff members had worked as waiters at a previous conference (as had several scholars and fellows).

Being a Bread Loaf waiter—a position that comes with a full tuition waiver and free room and board—is a point of pride. More than 600 applicants vied for 25 waiter positions this year, with the criteria for selection based not on an ability to clear tables, refill drinks, and serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner in a communal dining room the size of a large high school cafeteria, but on one's promise as a writer. ("And to think, less than two weeks ago you were just poets, essayists, and writers," quipped the conference's director, Michael Collier, acknowledging the waiters' stellar on-the-job training at the conference's finale dinner at the end of the week.) The bulk of the attendees—roughly 175 people—pay the full tuition of $2,081. In the past, those who paid full freight were characterized as subsidizers of the tuition scholars and as fantasy-camp attendees, willing to pay top dollar to mingle with the stars sprung from the pages of the *New York Times Book Review* and—fingers crossed!—hopeful that this magic literary pixie dust would rub off and turn their journals and notebooks into receptacles for musings worthy of, well, Frost and Stegner. It's a characterization loathed by Collier and, frankly, most everyone else associated with the conference. (This insinuation in a *New Yorker* article five years ago still raises hackles among faculty members and attendees, fellows, and staff members today.) The College underwrites the conference's scholarships and financial aid packages, Collier will tell you, and the idea that anyone willing to pay is offered a VIP pass is belied by the fact that more than 1,500 people applied for full-pay admission and, of those, only 17 percent were accepted.

"In the last five years, the number of applicants has exploded," Collier said over breakfast in the largely empty dining room the morning before the conference began. "And the depth of this applicant pool has allowed the admissions board to choose really great writers."

Collier is the author of four books of poems, one of which was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. He first came to Bread Loaf as a scholar in 1981 and served as a fellow and associate faculty member (a position since abolished) before being named director of the conference in 1994. He's of medium build and has a head of hair that is thinning at the crown and is changing in color from brown to more of a senatorial gray. Actually, he somewhat resembles a former presidential candidate—if the junior senator from Massachusetts were to don jeans, a heather sweater, and flip flops and comport himself in the smooth, relaxed manner of a poet.

Collier is largely credited with infusing the conference with faculty members who embrace their role as teachers—who will place humility before the art, but also won't shy away from offering honest and direct (read: tough) feedback in the workshops. At

the same time, many say that Collier has managed to create a more egalitarian and democratic environment, where there's a greater connection between participants at all levels. "Michael has kept everything that was good about Bread Loaf and expanded it," a longtime faculty member said this year. "At the core, it's become a strong teaching conference; that's the backbone."

Which leads us to another important fact, what may be *the* most important fact about Bread Loaf—what it *won't* do.

"There's a misperception that we promise people that we'll teach them how to write," Collier said as he folded a layer of raspberry yogurt into a bowl of maple oatmeal, a Bread Loaf specialty. "You can no more teach someone how to write than you could walk up to someone on the street and claim that you can teach them how to sing," he explained. "But we can teach them how to *be* a writer, how to live that life. We can instill in them a seriousness of purpose, teach them that through dedication and repetition—through a lot of hard work—they can acquire a work ethic that can be applied to their craft. After that, it's up to them."

Collier rested his spoon on the rim of his bowl and leaned forward. "After 11 days, when people leave Bread Loaf, we want people to be able to go home and have the courage to face that blank page."

THE CONFERENCE OPENED ON ONE OF THOSE PERFECT VERMONT SUMMER DAYS that you read about in guidebooks or see pictured on postcards. Puffy cumulus clouds with just enough color to them to make you think that it could rain, somewhere, maybe over there, but it probably won't, dotted a brilliant blue sky, and there was a buzz to the campus, a giddy energy most often associated with the first day of school or sleep-away camp out in the woods. Just a day earlier, Collier likened this very moment to "having a fist slap you on the side of the head by the beauty of the surroundings, before entering the inn and experiencing something akin to the first day of summer camp." Except in this case, the camp is populated by young graduate students and retired executives, established writers and mid-career professionals (the average age of attendees is in the mid-30s).

An area for registration was arranged in the inn's parlor (the room's blue Victorian wallpaper has provided the space with the moniker, the Blue Parlor). Three staff members—a perfect triumvirate of poet, fiction writer, and nonfiction writer—manned the registration table, but for long periods of time, there wasn't much to do.

Megan Riley, the poet, was slumped in a wingback chair, gazing wistfully out the window. "It's sooooo nice outside. Cool. Clear. Bright. When I left D.C. this morning, I felt like my face was going to melt off." Riley lives in the nation's capital and works at the University of Maryland; this was her third year serving on the Bread Loaf staff. "I think people are so excited to get up here that they just drop their bags on the front porch and stay outside. I bet everyone shows up in a big rush right at five o'clock."

At just that moment, a pair of older women walked in and spotted a gentleman seated on one of the parlor's sofas, where he'd been quietly reading. Judging by appearances, he was Amish. He was wearing dark denim work pants, a long-sleeved cotton shirt, and traditional Amish hat, and he had a long black beard, sans mustache. The women—both a little over five feet tall with short, snow-white hair and outfits (jeans, white T-shirt, blue blazer, for one; khakis, orange polo shirt, for the other) that one often sees in Vermont during the summer—recognized him right away. "You

weren't supposed to be here. You told us last year that it was your last year at Bread Loaf," exclaimed one of the ladies as she reached out to hug the man, who was now standing.

"*You* weren't supposed to be here, either. Both of you told me that last year was going to be *your* last conference," he replied.

"Well," said the other woman, "that's because we thought we'd be dead!"

Much laughter ensued, and the woman who had predicted the demise of her and her friend sighed, smiled, and said "This is, indeed, old home week."

For many, Bread Loaf *is* old home week. The Amish gentleman was G. C. Waldrep, a poet and Bread Loaf veteran, who was returning to the conference as a fellow after several years in attendance as a scholar and waiter. The women, Carol Armstrong and Barbara Earle, both poets, are both retired and have also attended Bread Loaf (health permitting) for a number of years. Noreen Cargill, the administrative manager for the writers' conference, says that many of those in attendance this year were returning to Bread Loaf for at least the second time. Several were writers and poets—such as Ellen Bryant Voigt, Arthur Sze, and Edward Hirsch—who have served on the faculty for a number of years. Others were fellows who had once been scholars, scholars and staff members who had once been waiters, and students, like Paul Austin, a nonfiction writer and emergency room doctor from Durham, North Carolina, who was returning to the mountain for his fourth year—or, he self-deprecatingly explained, until he gets it right.

Austin has a full head of floppy brown hair, a bushy mustache that is more white than brown, and round, rimless glasses. He talks in a thick Southern drawl, which becomes more pronounced, he said, when he's "up North" (perhaps, he explained, because he gets nervous and self-conscious about the way he sounds). There's a gentle intensity to Paul Austin that any emergency room patient would find comforting, and it's a character trait—an acute sense of purpose—that doesn't recede when he talks about writing. His hands are constantly in motion when he talks, and he'll emphasize a point by forcefully tapping his finger—once, twice, three times (tap! tap! tap!)—on the nearest surface, be it a wooden breakfast table or the writing surface of a school desk.

He wrote a detective novel during his medical residency at the University of Pittsburgh several decades ago, but he never showed it to anyone. Ten years passed before he wrote anything again, and he didn't start writing seriously—what he calls "writing with intent, a single-mindedness of purpose"—until about five years ago. It was around the time that Austin treated a man with chest pain and sent him home. "He came back dead," Austin said quietly over breakfast in the inn's dining room. "That was difficult to live with. I began writing about this episode, just pouring everything out on paper. I wrote and revised, wrote and revised, and I came to *understand* the situation better. Ultimately I decided to call the widow and apologize; it was a step I had to take, and I didn't realize it until I wrote about it. I've found that my work as a doctor informs my writing, but my writing also informs my work."

He has dissected several medical cases in articles written for *Discover* magazine and has published a number of essays in literary journals. Many of his essays ("Tucker Put His Gun to His Head," "Damn Man. Why Don't You Do Something?") share a common theme—that in medicine, like in the world at large, some things can't be fixed, no matter how compassionate or skilled a doctor might be. Austin hopes to publish a collection of stories that will illustrate the messy (and often heartbreaking) collision between compassion and the inflexible. He had brought to Bread Loaf an outline of his proposal for a 22-chapter book with a working title of "Do No Harm." The typed outline was covered with handwritten notes, advice and criticism gleaned from his nonfiction workshop led by the *New Yorker* writer and author Susan Orlean. "Susan's great at asking, 'So, what?'" Austin said, as he began to carefully cut a peach into symmetrical sections and one by one drop the sections into a bowl of Cheerios. "Right away, she focused on the most basic element that you can apply to a story in a collection or a sentence in a story. Does the sentence advance the story? Does the story address a greater theme? In my case, each story had to shed light on the aspect of compassion and what happens when it collides with the inflexible. I'm going to go back over every story now, and every sentence of every story, to make sure this criteria is met."

Austin was actually one of two doctors in Orlean's workshop, which also included a children's hand surgeon, a Houston energy consultant, a freelance writer, an MTV production person, and the ex-wife of a CIA agent. Orlean was returning to Bread Loaf, too, having served as a fellow in 1996. Since then, she's published several books, including the bestseller *The Orchid Thief,* which was the inspiration for the recent Charlie Kaufman motion picture, *Adaptation.* In Kaufman's fevered mind, the *New Yorker* writer morphed into a drug-addled, sex-crazed murderer. In reality, Orlean is married and the mother of an infant son. She's relatively short and has eyes the color of the clearest, bluest lake you've ever seen and thick, wavy, auburn hair that falls below her shoulders. And while she looks nothing like Meryl Streep, the Oscar-winning actress who portrayed her onscreen, Orlean definitely has a certain star quality; perhaps it's a natural confidence that goes along with being one of the finest nonfiction writers of our time. So it's somewhat surprising to find that she's as down-to-earth, humble, and friendly as your next-door neighbor (and depending on your neighbor, maybe friendlier).

"This is going to sound sentimental, but I mean it genuinely: I have been honored to spend time with these 10 students, who have spent so much time dedicated to writing," she said the day before the conference wrapped up. "I'm serious," she insisted. "They could be doing anything—watching TV, playing video games, going to the beach. But they're here, and they are doing something so passionately, so intensely, knowing they may not make one red cent from their efforts. It's remarkable. And it's humbling.

"And I'll tell you what surprised me, somewhat: How many of them—and this includes really good writers—said that they had never felt like writers until this week. You may laugh, but to me, that sentiment is beautiful. It's quite lovely."

Though not one of Orlean's students, Andrew Miller would be one of those writers. Miller is 37, a poet, and lives with his wife and son in Denmark, where he has taught English as a second language for the past eight years. In the late 1990s, he studied under

the poet Ellen Bryant Voigt in an MFA program. At the time, Miller was writing a very loose style of poetry ("It's all I knew how to do," he would say nearly a decade later), and it was Voigt who helped him tighten his focus and shape his writing so that, according to Miller, it would be more accessible to others. But Miller got frustrated, fleeing to Europe (a flight that proved to be both literal and figurative), where he struggled, in relative isolation, with his writing. He reached out to Voigt, who encouraged him to apply to Bread Loaf, telling him, somewhat cryptically, "What you haven't had for so long is here."

On a cool, dreary afternoon, Voigt and Miller met in Bread Loaf's cavernous barn, where they had pulled a pair of bamboo chairs around a small round table and were poring over Miller's latest manuscript. There was enough of a bite in the air for the Bread Loaf staff to have lit a fire in the inn's lobby fireplace, but in the barn, the air was heavy and damp, the smell of wood strong. The barn's towering wooden support columns had been wrapped in Christmas lights, but they weren't plugged in. Voigt had pulled a black fleece over a teal buttoned-down shirt and was leaning back in her chair. She twirled her glasses in her right hand, while Miller looked at her intently. Suddenly, she sat up. "You want to be careful of having two poems with the same kind of structure back-to-back. So," she said, "I would not put these two poems together. I absolutely would not." And she pulled two sheets of paper out of a dozen or so she had in her right hand and dropped them on the table. "So, if 'Sparrows' comes out,"—she rapidly flipped through the papers remaining in her hand—"then we can put this one here, then this, and then end with this poem." She had placed three sheets of paper, one on top of the other, on a stack of about 30 pages. "So you have the frame, now you're looking for the middle."

Miller looked unsure and remained silent. Finally: "Interesting."

"I respect your hesitation, I really do," Voigt said.

"You know, Ellen," Miller said, slowly, "I'm not sure the last poem is written." She nodded, and a half-smile crept across her face.

"It has to be something personal," Miller continued, more forcefully now. "It has to be something about *me*."

"The thing about writing," Voigt would say several days later, "is that one's always on the precipice. One's always on the brink of enormous failure." Voigt was exhausted (it was the last day of the conference) and battling allergies. She was relaxing on the porch of Maple Cottage before heading over to the Little Theater for a poetry reading that afternoon. She had affixed a small round button to her shirt. It was red, with white letters that said, "It's lovely, but I have to scream now."

"When you're in the middle of this struggle—as Andrew had been—the exhilaration that stems from the camaraderie that naturally occurs when you're surrounded by people who have the same problems, the same challenges . . . it breathes new life, renewed confidence into the writing," she said.

"You come here and you are handed a lens, which you can then use to take a fresh look at what's been stalling you. And we—the faculty—need it as much as anyone. It keeps us young. And if not young, then awake!"

And Voigt laughed, a full, strong belly laugh that echoed off the surrounding cottages and carried out over the open meadows.

On the morning of the conference's first full day, the poet Edward Hirsch delivered a lecture, "The Enigma of the Creative Process." Hirsch has an imposing presence. He's large, without being fat, and has a stern look about him. He towered—hulked, might be a more accurate description—over the battle-scarred wooden podium in the Little Theater, and when he made eye contact with the audience, his angular face had an almost hawklike quality to it. But Hirsch also has a sly sense of humor, a sneaky wit, and when he smiles—which he does often—his expression does a complete 180. A devil-may-care, adolescent persona seems to take hold, and when this happens, even his hair—tightly shorn and gray—takes on a boyish quality.

He opened with one of his poems, "The History of My Stupidity: Volume 3, Chapter 5," a humorous illustration of his central argument that the creative process is predicated on a state of unknowingness. "I have been writing poetry for nearly 35 years—I have written three prose books about it—and yet I still don't know what poetry is," he said. (Remember, humility before the art.) "I don't know what music is either—who can explain the combination of beauty and pain that pierces the notes? There is probably something immutable about the need to make art, though the boundaries of our genres keep shifting. The imagination is defiant and limitless."

Afterward, in an extensive question-and-answer session, he explained the creative process this way: "You can't have art without the unconscious imagination, but you also can't have art without conscious labor. When the two come together, then you have something special, and it's a thrilling process.

"Most young writers fail because they don't work hard enough," he continued. "It has nothing to do with creativity. Your task is to fully realize what you've been given. Keep pushing toward your ceiling. Very few people come close to doing that."

Around the theater, people sat up straight. Heads nodded in affirmation. A charge had been issued. It was a far different message than the one intoned by a drunken Sinclair Lewis in 1928 when he swayed behind a Bread Loaf lectern and told a room full of literary aspirants that they would never be creative writers, and if by some chance they did achieve this goal, it wasn't worth attaining ("writers are a bastard lot of human beings").

Midway through his lecture, Hirsch had also touched on an interesting topic: The effect art—in this case, poetry—has on a person. "Emily Dickinson recognized true poetry by the extremity—the actual physical intensity—of her response to it," Hirsch related. " 'If I read a book [and] it makes my whole body feel [so] cold no fire can ever warm me I know *that* is poetry,' " Hirsch said, quoting Dickinson. " 'If I feel physically as if the top of my head were taken off, I know *that* is poetry. These are the only ways I know. Is there any other way?' "

Several years ago, a biochemist at the St. Paul-Ramsey Medical Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota, conducted a study that attempted to determine the cause of emotional tears, psychogenic

lacrimations. Researchers learned that emotional tears contain roughly 20 percent more protein than reflex tears (tears caused by irritation), but were stymied as to what the proteins are, why they're more abundant in emotional tears, and what triggers them. Essentially, emotional tears remain a great mystery, relegated to a state of unknowingness, understood better by a 19th-century poet than 21st-century scientists. Which leads us, as promised, to the end.

On the conference's last night, Yusef Komunyakaa, the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, had been tapped to conduct Bread Loaf's final public reading. Enthusiastic applause preceded an abrupt hush in the crowded Little Theater when Komunyakaa, a tall African American with close-cropped hair that's more white than black, strode purposefully to the podium. Komunyakaa's voice is a rich, earthy baritone, and as he read, if you were sitting close enough to the front, you could actually *feel* his voice. In between poems, the audience quickly shifted in their collective seats—a chorus of 300 seats creaking all at once—in an almost frantic attempt to get settled before Komunyakaa began to read his next selection; while he read, in contrast, nobody seemed to breathe, much less move. People were frozen. Some cupped their heads in their hands, their elbows dug into their knees, torsos perched forward. Others held their hands, palms together, fingertips at the points of their chins, as if in prayer.

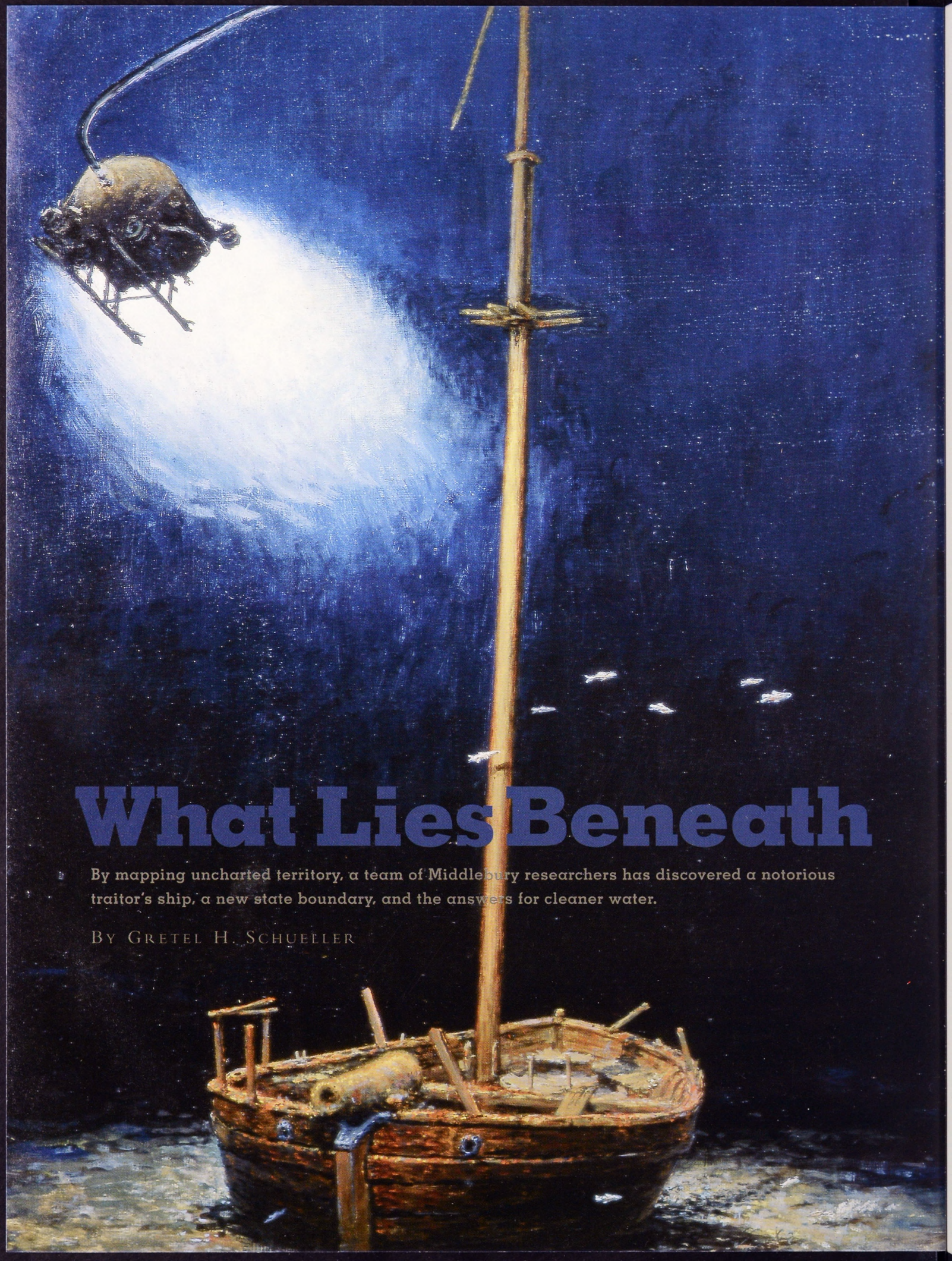
And it remained that way for 25 minutes or so, until Komunyakaa, a Vietnam veteran, concluded with a selection from his watershed collection *Dien Cai Dau*. In "Facing It," Komunyakaa visits the Vietnam Veterans Memorial—and revisits the past. "My black face fades / Hiding inside the black granite. / I said I wouldn't, / Dammit: No tears. / I'm stone. I'm flesh," he began.

As Komunyakaa continued, many closed their eyes, letting his words wash over them. One woman had leaned forward so that her folded arms rested on the empty seat back in front of her, her head resting on her forearms. The poet likened his clouded reflection in the black granite to a bird of prey, and he searched the names half-expecting to find his own. And then the poem, and the reading, came to an end: "In the black mirror / A woman's trying to erase names: / No, she's brushing a boy's hair."

And an emotional tear escaped a young woman's left eye and slid, slowly, along the curved ridge where nose and cheekbone meet. As it crested the rise of her cheek, it picked up speed, sliding more quickly now, forces of gravity at work, streaking down her smooth face until it was in freefall, bound for the dusty floor of the Little Theater, where its journey ended with a simple, silent splash.

During the 11 days he spent as an observer at the Writers' Conference, Matt Jennings felt as if he had discovered nirvana.

For audio excerpts of Bread Loaf readings, as well as other Web-exclusive material, visit www.middleburymagazine.org



What Lies Beneath

By mapping uncharted territory, a team of Middlebury researchers has discovered a notorious traitor's ship, a new state boundary, and the answers for cleaner water.

By Gretel H. Schueeler

For more than five hours on October 11, 1776, cannon fire roared across Lake Champlain. In the narrow strait between the New York mainland and tiny Valcour Island, a ragtag squadron of 15 American ships commanded by a still-loyal Benedict Arnold battled a goliath British fleet. Although Arnold's fleet was vastly outmatched and suffered tremendous losses (including Arnold's own gunboat, the *Spitfire*), the fledgling American navy effectively thwarted the British attempt to advance down Lake Champlain to the Hudson River, and managed to retreat under the cover of darkness.

Today, some two centuries later, residents peacefully sail, kayak, or travel by ferry across the lake. And while most people are entranced by the surrounding mountain ranges and placid water, the calm, steely blue surface of Lake Champlain is deceptive. Plunge past its watery skin and you'll start to uncover a dark, silt-covered terrain—in some places more than 400 feet deep—that is scattered with relics of bloody battles and deadly storms. In fact, this 435-square-mile lake holds the country's largest and best-preserved collection of historical ships—from Native American dugout canoes and British warships to 19th-century tugboats and even a horse-powered ferry. Researchers estimate that as many as 300 shipwrecks could be entombed in these waters.

Yet until recently, less than 10 percent of the lake's floor had been charted, making the bottom of Champlain as mysterious as the surface of Mars. That is until geology professors Pat and Tom Manley completed a 10-year project this summer that has resulted in the first comprehensive map of the lake's floor.

The last time anyone had charted the lake's terrain was in 1879, when casting lines with lead sinkers were used to measure depths at roughly 9,800 points across the lake. By contrast, the Manley's map contains more than 735,000 measurements and covers about 95 percent of the lake's bottom. This quantum-leap improvement compares to upgrading from a pencil sketch to a color photograph. Not only is the map more detailed, Pat noted, "It also corrects some inaccuracies of the original measurements." In some areas, such as Shelburne Bay, researchers found as much as an eight-foot difference. The new map could also raise some interesting political implications, she said. "The standard boundary between New York and Vermont follows the deepest parts of the lake. Now, with this map, it could be revised."

The map spans more than eight feet and is currently hanging on a wall on the fourth floor of McCardell Bicentennial Hall. In vivid red and cool shades of green and blue, the map paints a picture of plunging valleys, underwater shoals, old river channels, and plateaus—some previously unknown. If one were to look at it with a pair of 3-D glasses, the surface would explode into three dimensions. On a late summer afternoon, the Manleys sat in their Bi Hall laboratory and related their decade-long adventure of mapping Champlain's floor.

Both were soft-spoken and finished each other's sentences. Tom Manley stretched back in his chair, swiveling between a pair of computer screens. Every few minutes his computer chimed the arrival of a new e-mail. He was wearing jeans and sturdy, black leather boots. "I rode my motorcycle in, and I haven't had a chance to change," he almost sheepishly explained. Normally, he wears shorts—regardless of the weather. It's a relic of his earlier days of polar research, which explains the large collection of all things polar bear on his windowsill. With an impish grin, Manley claimed that the one day he did wear long pants he caught a cold.

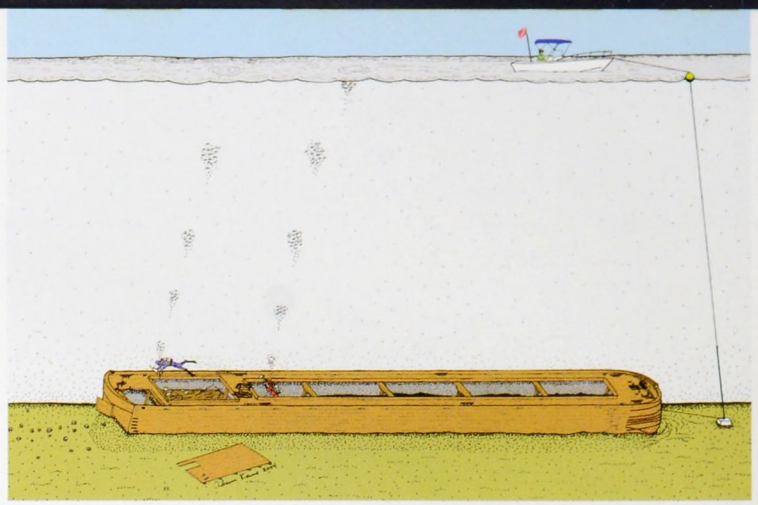
Pat rolled her eyes and laughed. She's tall, with long auburn hair, and has a sharp sense of humor. (The sign outside her office door declares "Reunite Gondwanaland!") The Manleys have known each other since their undergraduate days as geology majors at Kent State University, in Ohio. They honeymooned at a field camp in the Black Hills of South Dakota more than 30 years ago, and have shared a passion for geology ever since.

They acknowledged that it's somewhat out of the ordinary for two geologists—who primarily focus on water circulation and sedimentation patterns—to become so well versed in underwater archaeology and state boundaries, but sometimes one's research follows the most unconventional routes.

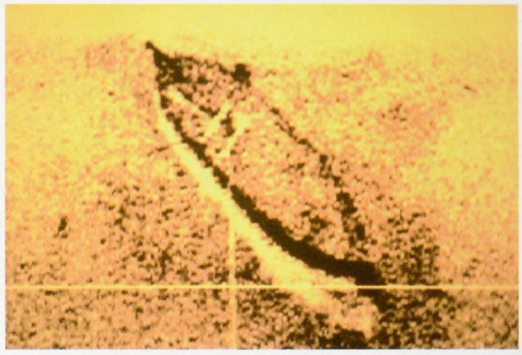
About 10 years ago, as the Manleys were expressing an interest in discerning a more precise picture of the lake's floor, the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum wanted to conduct a systematic inventory of all the lake's hidden shipwrecks. Around that time, a small but destructive creature—the zebra mussel—had infiltrated the lake and had begun encrusting entire shipwrecks in layers; some divers compared the look to a vessel covered in shag carpeting. The mussels would not only affect sites visually, but would also allow sulfur-reducing bacteria to thrive, thereby changing the water chemistry, which quickly dissolves iron fastenings. The museum didn't have the ability to conduct a survey on such a large scale, says its executive director, Art Cohn, yet the urgency was inescapable; the damage wrought by the mussels was worsening each summer. And that's when Cohn heard about the Manleys and their interest in mapping the lake's floor. The Manleys also had a side-scan sonar. Towed behind a ship, the yellow torpedo-shaped instrument creates images, called acoustic shadows, of any features that stick up above the surrounding floor, such as a ridge—or a shipwreck. It was a perfect fit.

For eight consecutive summers, the Manleys and a team consisting of student researchers, a navigator, and a lake historian would board the *Neptune,* a 40-foot, steel-hulled ship privately owned and operated by a Vermont captain, and crawl along the lake's surface at five miles an hour, while the side-scan sonar transmitted images to two of the five computer screens in the ship's cabin. ("People think being out on the lake is so glamorous. It's tedious. You're in a box staring at a computer screen for 8 to 10 hours a day," explains Pat.) The team would traverse the 120-mile-long lake in rows—Tom likened it to mowing several football fields with a push mower—and while the sonar transmitted images to the computer screens, depth-finding equipment would gauge the depth and position every two seconds.

That first summer, the team discovered 10 new shipwrecks; five of them were infested with zebra mussels. It was the next summer, however, that the team made its most intriguing discovery. As they were crisscrossing the lake one morning, someone on board spotted an unusual image on one of the computer monitors; to the untrained eye, it looked like the grainy outline of a peapod, but the scientists had a hunch they were on to something important. The next day, Cohn joined the dive team to investigate the new find. The object rested in cold, deep water,



WATERWORLD
The Manleys' side-scan sonar (right) would transmit images of the lake floor (below right) to computer screens aboard the *Neptune*. While depth-finding equipment would gauge depth and position every two seconds, newly discovered sites would be marked and later explored by diving teams (below left).



That first summer, the team discovered 10 new shipwrecks; five of them were infested with zebra mussels.

where neither light nor sound penetrated. Flashlights cast a murky green tinge. The only noise was the burble of bubbles as each diver exhaled. Cohn, a veteran diver of nearly 40 years, describes the underwater site as "a little eerie."

Upon reaching the lake floor, Cohn knew immediately what they had found. It was a Revolutionary War gunboat, 54 feet long, with a 50-foot mast and bow cannon still in place, and it was sitting upright as if it were ready to sail along the muddy lake floor. Upon surfacing, his first words to his colleagues were: "We found the missing gunboat!"—Benedict Arnold's missing *Spitfire*, which hasn't seen the light of day since he abandoned it in the night nearly 230 years ago. That evening when Pat Manley came home, she put the side-scan-sonar image on the kitchen table in front of her husband (after working for two straight weeks, it was the *one* day he wasn't aboard). "All I could say," Tom recalls, "was wow!"

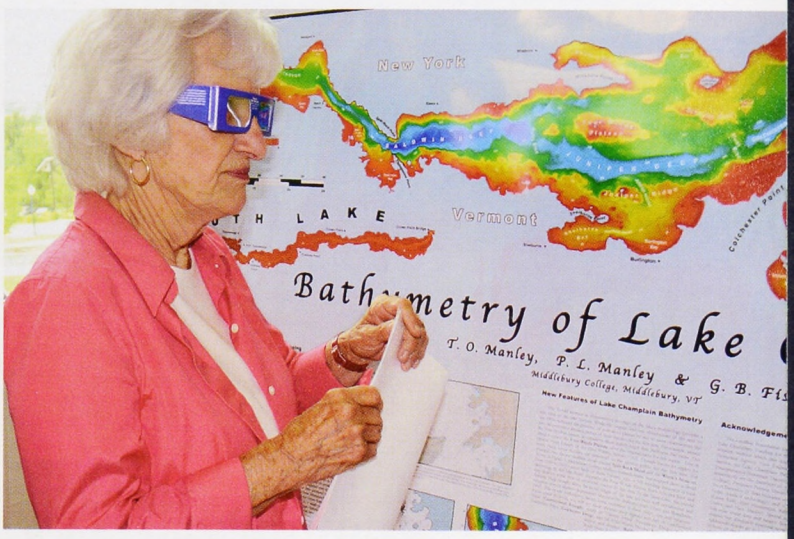
"The *Spitfire* is an extraordinary object tied to an extraordinary event. It's a national treasure," states Cohn. It is just one of nearly 80 shipwrecks that the team has discovered because of the mapping project. "There's decades worth of work to do for us," says Chris Sabick, director of conservation at the Maritime Museum. With a team of divers, Sabick and his colleagues are steadily examining the new discoveries, researching their histories, and preserving any artifacts. "All these sites get reported to determine their underwater preservation potential."

Of course, the Manleys' main interest centers on understanding how water and sediment circulate through the lake. "You can slosh water around in a bucket, but if it has a hole, the water will flow differently," explains Pat Manley. "Currents respond to topography." Like a hole, underwater ridges change water circulation. Currents also carry sediment or pollutants like phosphorus or mercury, and the Manleys hope their work will provide better information on where mercury and sediment settle. Tom has been working with the Champlain Water District to determine the best location for a new intake pipe in Shelburne Bay, one of the main municipal water supply sources in the area. The current pipe sits just behind White's Ridge, a newly discovered ridge of sediment that runs halfway across the northeast portion of the bay; this location, behind the ridge, modifies circulation patterns, which can affect water quality. A nearby shipwreck will also factor into the position of the new pipe.

This year, Tom spent most of the summer in St. Albans Bay studying the impact wind has on the lake's circulation patterns. Once a week, as the sun rose, he'd unload his yellow truck and fill a small Zodiac boat with computer equipment, and then motor from Kill Kare State Park to Burton Island, where the *Baldwin*, the College's 32-foot research vessel, was docked. Four satellite-tracked buoys would be drifting five to 30 meters below the surface, and at precisely 8:00 A.M., they'd pop to the surface. "We never know where, though," he laughed on one such morning, as he scanned the flat surface of the lake at around 7:55, five minutes

IMAGES COURTESY OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN MARITIME MUSEUM

LAKE VIEW
Tom Manley likened the mapping process to mowing several football fields with a push mower—but the result has been more than worth it.



before the buoys were scheduled to surface. Since he had released them a week earlier, they'd been on the move, riding currents fueled by the wind. Like a treasure hunt, the only guide was a beacon finder that informed you if you were "hot or cold" on a scale of 0 to 100. A flag topped each buoy, and for several hours, Tom scanned the horizon for Day-Glo-orange specks. ("Luckily the water is calm today. You should try doing this with sizable waves around," he said.)

"There it is!"

Bobbing along the shore was the first buoy. Tom climbed into the Zodiac, which was tethered alongside the *Baldwin*, and zipped to the buoy. A heron sat on a nearby rock, and Tom greeted the bird with a friendly "Hi, guy!" Tom has a little of that goofy geek to him, and that morning he chattered away not just to the bird, but also to the GPS system, the buoys, even the duct tape he used onboard the *Baldwin*. After a lot of circling and zigzagging, all four buoys were back on board, and Manley returned to the lab, where he would eventually analyze the mountain of information that detailed how the buoys traveled.

Today, layers of 10-foot-long maps cover a table in the Manley's Bi Hall lab. "There's tons of data. All this stuff had to be organized and put into this program so we could visualize it. We must have gone over each point 10 times, and there were more than 700,000 points," explains Burch Fisher '03. Fisher became a geology major after taking Tom's oceanography course in the fall of 2002 and spent last year working in the Manleys' lab as a research assistant. "One of the coolest things—and a real testament to Middlebury—is the collaboration between students and faculty," Fisher says. "The map is a great example of that. Getting a more intimate knowledge of the lake and finding a way to visualize something that hadn't been done before was really rewarding." Fisher's at Dartmouth now, where he's studying for a master's in earth science. "That map is going to be around for a long time."

During the past decade, a number of students have assisted the Manleys. One, Laura Kelly '06, discovered a rise of land south of Four Brothers Islands, which is now officially named Kelly Rise. "It's important to recognize the collaboration among a talented group of scientists, archaeological dive team, and students," Cohn says. "I really give them [the Manleys] high marks for involving students in real-world research."

Since the map was presented last summer, public response has been overwhelming. Copies are now hanging at the Maritime Museum and at the Echo Center in Burlington. The next step, now in the works, is to create a Web site so that the information and map will be available to everyone.

The Manleys are also gearing up for another summer on the lake to fill in a few remaining holes in their research. "There's still a lot more down there," Tom says. They are certain there is one thing not waiting to be discovered, however: Lake Champlain's legendary deep-water creature, Champ. "I can't say that I'm convinced! Scientifically, there are just too many reasons why it could not exist in Lake Champlain."

Gretel H. Schueller writes about science and nature for a number of publications, including Adirondack Explorer, Audubon, National Wildlife, *and* Popular Science. *She lives outside of Burlington, Vermont, not far from the shores of Lake Champlain.*

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DENNIS CURRAN AND ANGELO LYNN

After writing a stinging dissent in a landmark case, Massachusetts Supreme Court Justice Martha Sosman '72 found herself being judged in the court of public opinion.

But there's more to her than meets the eye.

COURTING JUSTICE

By John Wolfson

Photographs by Kathleen Dooher

Last March, the people claimed the streets of Boston. By the thousands they came, cramming the Beacon Street sidewalks in front of the Massachusetts State House, erecting a concert stage in historic Boston Common, waving signs, blowing whistles; one contingent chanted biblical passages; another demanded equal rights. Inside the State House, lawmakers at a special constitutional convention were wrangling with the emerging reality that soon, very soon, Massachusetts was going to become the first state in the nation to legalize gay marriage.

Four months earlier, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court had ruled in *Goodrich v. Department of Public Health* that same-sex couples were entitled to all the rights and benefits of matrimony. The court gave the legislature 180 days to craft a plan to comply with the decision, which resulted in the constitutional convention. All the major newspapers sent reporters. Broadcast networks beamed the images around the world. Cable-network talking heads roared at nighttime audiences. It was either the dawning of a new era or the end of civilization. History, everyone sensed, was being made.

Even the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court—an institution that has long favored consensus and precedent—was not immune to the conflicting emotions and tense atmosphere. Though the SJC had announced its ruling in the sort of soaring, majestic language that always seems to accompany these once-in-a-generation rulings—"The Massachusetts Constitution affirms the dignity and equality of all individuals; it forbids the creation of second-class citizens," Chief Justice Margaret Marshall wrote—the stirring words did little to disguise the fact that the decision had been a razor-thin 4–3 majority. And no member of the minority opinion dissented with more passion, or more volume, than Justice Martha Sosman '72.

To Sosman, the court had overstepped its bounds, discerning a right that could not be found in the Massachusetts constitution; to her, the majority's opinion boiled down to a belief that gays should be allowed to marry simply because they were already allowed to adopt children. But plenty of straight couples also raise kids outside of marriage, she reasoned. The state was not required to "accord the full benefits of marital status on every household raising children," she wrote in dissent. Later, lawmakers came back to the court asking whether Vermont-style civil unions would suffice, rather than full marriage. By the same slim margin, the court

decreed that marriage, and marriage alone, would satisfy its requirements. Again, Sosman disagreed. What was wrong with civil unions? They offered the same benefits as marriage, she wrote in still another dissent, using a dash of Shakespeare to make her point: "That which we call a rose, by any other name would smell as sweet." Then things got personal. Sosman's argument "so clearly misses the point," Marshall wrote, "that further discussion appears to be useless." Sosman answered by labeling the majority "activist." Their ruling, she charged, "merely repeats the impassioned rhetoric" of gay-marriage proponents. All in all, the exchange was astonishing. "There's an extraordinary level of invective that isn't characteristic of this court," Boston College law professor R. Michael Cassidy told the *New York Times*.

It's certainly true that Sosman—a former Planned Parenthood board member and cofounder of an all-women law firm—knew that in aligning herself with the "no" faction on the gay-marriage question, she was stepping onto grounds mushy with the potential to be interpreted as plain old bigotry. And she surely knew that her opposition threatened, in this most progressive of states, to affect everything from her social circle to her judicial legacy. (Though it's difficult to imagine she could have foreseen that it would lead to Fox commentator Bill O'Reilly speculating about her sexuality.) It is also true, as it happens, that she came down against gay marriage anyway. To her, there just wasn't anything in the Massachusetts constitution to support it.

MARTHA SOSMAN IS SHORT—she's about five-feet, three-inches tall—and has piercing blue eyes and closely cropped salt-and-pepper hair. As one would expect, though, her standing as an officer of the court lends her a somewhat imposing presence that belies her actual size. From the bench, she can certainly cast a stern countenance, but when I first met the 54-year-old judge on a steamy day in late July, I was caught off guard. She was, well, surprisingly cheery.

On that day, Sosman had just left a farewell party for the year's batch of law clerks, and, right on time for our appointment, she strode up to me in the marble-lined lobby of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. After giving my hand a firm shake, she led me into her spacious office, where we spent the next hour and a half discussing her theories on constitutional law, the career path she'd followed to the state's highest court, and her days at Middlebury.

"People see some things on the résumé—they see the Planned Parenthood, the all-women firm, and they immediately make assumptions about where I stand on a particular issue," she said. "We do have this tendency to pigeon-hole people based on our stereotypical assumptions." She was not, she stressed, talking specifically about gay marriage. She had made it clear, before agreeing to the interview, that she couldn't comment on that ruling—her written dissent would have to speak for itself. Still, I hoped that a few unobtrusive questions in this first meeting might encourage her to open up next time. And she was certainly engaging that afternoon. She spoke with enthusiasm and laughed easily, a piercing, high-pitched hoot that caused her eyes to scrunch up and nearly close. While making a more serious point, she would clasp her hands and look down at her desk.

"As a judge, you are supposed to be able to look at things in a very dispassionate way," she said. "What does the statute actually say? What does the constitution actually say? What do our prior cases say? It's certainly one of the regrettable things that you see going on now on the federal level. Judicial selection is driven by all of these litmus tests. It should be about, 'Is this person a person who can think clearly, without getting swept up in the passions of the moment about a particular issue?'"

As judges, we have to employ considerable restraint in interpreting a constitution," she said when pressed about her own judicial philosophy. "Some people talk about so-called 'judicial restraint,' which I think is really code for intellectual honesty. The law does have to have an internal consistency. It has to make sense. And it can't be this pastiche of, 'Well we're going to have this little exception here.' You have to think in ways that are very rigorous and intellectually honest. And if you do that, it will override your own ideological leanings on various issues."

As the interview came to a close, Sosman agreed to meet again. When I called her house a week later to make the arrangements, it was her father who answered. He said that Martha was at the doctor's office and wouldn't be home for some time. I left a message, but a few days passed without hearing back from her. I called again, and a weary-sounding Sosman came to the phone. She apologized for her grogginess, explaining that she'd recently undergone her first chemotherapy session and had yet to fully regain her strength. Only a couple of weeks before our first interview, she explained, she'd been diagnosed with breast cancer. I was stunned; she'd been so upbeat and untroubled that day at her office. When I asked whether she wanted to cancel the second interview, she responded immediately that she did not. And by the way, she added, "It's a good thing your photographer came before the chemo—while I still have my hair." Then she laughed that distinctive laugh.

"That's Martha," says Kyle Landt, who refers to herself as Sosman's surrogate sister, and who says that, in 35 years of friendship, she has never heard Sosman whine. When Landt phones to check on Sosman's condition these days, the judge invariably steers the conversation away from herself and to the Boston Red Sox, "especially Red Sox pitching."

Sosman doesn't care for the term "compartmentalize," but she gets the basic idea. Some people seem to be able to push even the worst news out of their mind for a while, to get the job done, whatever the circumstances. "I am able to focus on the present task at hand, and focus exclusively on that," she said. Some of that's probably an inborn trait, an aspect of character that accompanied Sosman into this world. Some of it, however, she learned. As a 12-year-old, she spent six months lying on her back in a full-body cast, recuperating from surgery to treat a severe curvature of the spine. ("She's a rock," explains Nicholas Theodorou, a lawyer who years ago worked with Sosman in the U.S. Attorney's Office. "She's a rock as a person.")

While it may be a stretch to equate courage in the face of debilitating injury or serious illness with resolve on the bench, those who know Sosman believe the two are related. Though she's

often described as "apolitical," she can be stubborn, stern, and tough when it comes to an "intellectually honest" interpretation of the law. "She doesn't do things out of convenience," explains Landt. "She doesn't do things out of expediency. She does them because she feels that this is the way, given her interpretation of the law, a right-minded person decides. And she's comfortable with that."

Though Middlebury political science professor Murray Dry has never met Sosman, her thinking on gay marriage has convinced him that she is, in fact, a right-minded judge. "She wrote a very good dissent," Dry says. "She made clear the difference between constitutionality and wisdom." The majority's ruling, as described by Dry, was more art than science. It was built on the state constitution, meaning it cannot be overturned by the federal courts, but the precedents it depends on were not established in Massachusetts. "They were using United States Supreme Court precedents, but they didn't want to use the U.S. Constitution," Dry says. "They didn't want to be subject to appeal." By rejecting that sort of creativity, he says, Sosman's dissent "reflects an appreciation of the limits of the judicial branch."

SOSMAN'S YEARS IN COLLEGE coincided with a period of great social unrest throughout the country, but, perhaps in keeping with her apolitical nature, she recalls campus life with a sort of tranquil nostalgia. "I started to learn French when I was at Middlebury," she says. "My sophomore, junior, and senior years were spent living in the Château, where [we] spoke French all the time. We had a French drama club. In good weather, every evening after supper, the French students played volleyball. I had a great time."

After graduation, Sosman worked for a time as a secretary, contemplating in an unhurried sort of way what she might like to do with her life. A gifted writer, speaker, researcher, and pianist, she had plenty of options. She decided eventually that a legal career would use the widest array of her skills and enrolled at the University of Michigan Law School.

She joined a large firm after law school, then took a job at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Boston, in 1984, working for Bill Weld in the years before he became governor. Weld promoted her in 1986 to chief of the office's civil division, which defends suits brought against the federal government. In 1989, Sosman and four other women from the U.S. Attorney's Office launched their own firm. She remained with the firm for nearly four years, leaving in 1993, when she was appointed to the Massachusetts Superior Court. "That was something she had been very up front with us about," says one of the principals, M. Ellen Carpenter. "If an opportunity to be a judge came along, she was going to take it."

In 2000, the then governor Paul Cellucci nominated Sosman for the SJC. At her swearing in, she invoked the memory of her late mother, who instilled in her daughter a sense of purpose and humility. "To my mother, it wouldn't make a difference that I'm going on the Supreme Judicial Court," she said. "It would make a difference to her that I'm a good judge."

IT WAS A DREARY, GRAY DAY when I arrived at the farmhouse in Concord, Massachusetts, where Sosman grew up. She met me at the driveway, wearing blue jeans and a denim shirt. Her head remained full of her own close-cropped hair, but she looked tired and pale. It had been about a week since her chemo session, and she felt weak. We walked slowly around the large house and settled in chairs on a comfortably worn porch.

Sosman returned to Concord not long after her mother died in 1993. She was ready to move out of Boston by then anyway, and someone needed to look after her elderly father. That Sosman is single and has no children made it simple to relocate. That she is also confident and direct, and wears her hair short, has made it simple over the years to speculate that she is a lesbian. She takes the rumors in stride, saying simply that they're not true. That didn't stop Bill O'Reilly from using them to mock the gay-marriage ruling. "Even the lesbian judge wouldn't go along with it," he told his Fox News Channel viewers. "I thought it was distasteful," Sosman told me. "When you see this kind of grating, obnoxious, baiting behavior—and you have been pulled into it—in some way, it's kind of creepy."

Whatever the judicial merits of Sosman's opposition to the SJC ruling, the controversy over gay marriage has largely subsided in Massachusetts. A plan in the legislature to rewrite the state constitution to specifically ban same-sex marriage and authorize civil unions was soundly defeated in September. There's a new citizens petition floating around that could ask voters to outlaw both gay marriage *and* civil unions, but its prospects are iffy at best. It appears increasingly likely that, however sound legally, Sosman's dissent in the gay marriage case will be judged by history as out of step with society. Despite a career overflowing with accomplishment—heading the civil division at a U.S. attorney's office, founding a law firm, sitting on both the superior and supreme judicial courts in her home state—that one opinion may well define her legacy.

That prospect doesn't seem to trouble her much. "If the ultimate take on any of my opinions is that I had a sound, correct, consistent intellectually honest application of the law as it stood, then the fact that it didn't advance the ball of history is not, I feel, any concern," she said. "I'm proud if people think I did a good job of applying the law in a consistent, sensible, intellectually honest way. That's what I'm trying to do." She's trying to be a good judge, just like her mother wanted.

I called Sosman a few weeks later with some follow-up questions. We chatted for a time, and, at the end of our conversation, I remarked that she sounded hardier, more energized, than when I'd seen her at her home. She said she felt stronger because it had been a while since her most recent chemotherapy session. "I'm feeling pretty good today," she said. "But they're going to hit me again next Tuesday." And then she let go one of those laughs.

John Wolfson is a senior writer at Boston Magazine. *Previously, he was a court reporter with the* Orlando Sentinel.

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Class Action

Candy Man
John Doyle '92 wants to do for chocolate what Ben & Jerry's has done for ice cream. And he's well on his way. Photograph by Stephen Spartana

One Sweet World

Thanks to John Doyle '92, social responsibility has never tasted so good.

By April White

YOU'D THINK THAT appearing on the Food Network show *Recipe for Success*—a program that hypes those who "swallowed their fears to undergo a risky career makeover"—would be a cause for celebration. So why was John Doyle '92 feeling so glum when Jubilee Chocolates, his Philadelphia-based artisanal chocolate company, was featured on the television show last July?

"They kept saying that we ran out of chocolates before the holidays," Doyle moans to his mother over the phone, a few days after the Food Network broadcast that brought up one of Jubilee's less than prime moments. As Doyle is talking to his mother, we're seeing the businessman in Doyle, the one who parlayed a Middlebury degree and, later, a master's in Italian, into a lucrative investment-banking gig in New York, the one who turned $5,000 in personal savings into a $1 million chocolate company in less than five years.

Jubilee, which Doyle owns with his wife, Kira Baker-Doyle, *did* run out of chocolates during the chocolate season in 2003. It ran out again in 2004, and, if Doyle is honest with himself, he's not sure the same thing won't happen in 2005.

"I'm always worrying about making enough chocolates," Doyle says, after hanging up the phone. When Jubilee debuted in 2001, he and Kira made all the chocolate themselves—about 4,000 pieces a month; now eight employees produce, pack, and ship as many as 40,000 pieces of chocolate a week. In 2004, the three-year-old company produced 375,000 pieces; this year, Doyle anticipates making 420,000 pieces—or about 14,000 boxes—during the winter holidays alone.

But there's another side to John Doyle: a side that is slightly more romantic than John Doyle, the businessman. During his junior year at Middlebury, he spent six months studying in Paris, where he managed to eat his way through the *Food Lover's Guide to Paris*. This is the same John Doyle who lived in an olive grove near Florence after graduation and later quit investment banking to work in a trendy New York restaurant. (He subsequently left that job to work at the "more Vermonty" White Dog Cafe, in Philadelphia, which is run by Judy Wicks, a sustainable agriculture supporter.)

But both John Doyle, the romantic, and John Doyle, the businessman, consider it a success that Jubilee is doing for small-batch confections what Ben & Jerry's has done for ice

HOT CHOCOLATE
After making 375,000 pieces of chocolate last year, John Doyle '92 expects Jubilee to produce 420,000—during the winter holidays alone.

PHOTOGRAPH BY STEPHEN SPARTANA

cream: recreating the ubiquitous American treats with labor-intensive techniques, high-quality ingredients, and a socially conscious approach.

■

WITH HIS COWLICKED BLACK HAIR tucked into a mesh cap and his sockless feet in untied Nikes, 36-year-old Doyle doesn't look the part of a modern-day Willy Wonka. But his Jubilee chocolates have

inspired a devotion among foodies to rival the sugar fixations of Roald Dahl's memorably sweet-toothed characters.

"The flavors are delightfully fresh and distinct," raves Tish Boyle, editor of *Chocolatier* magazine.

"Ordinary flavors made extraordinary by fresh ingredients," exclaims *Consumer Reports,* ranking Jubilee number one in a taste test that included La Maison du Chocolat and Jacques Torres Chocolate.

"These are the most amazingly delicious chocolates I've ever tasted, and for me it was instant love," declares Ruth Reichl, editor of *Gourmet* magazine, which featured the artisanal chocolates on its cover in February 2003.

"These are the most amazingly delicious chocolates I've ever tasted," declares food critic Ruth Reichl.

A framed copy of the elegant *Gourmet* cover—"We found our favorite chocolates!"—rests beside Doyle's Post-it note-covered desk on the concrete floor of Jubilee Chocolates headquarters, a windowless, cinderblock corner of a former Goldenberg's Peanut Chews plant.

"I'm not in love with chocolate," Doyle admits, as he weaves through the factory's maze of rolling trays of cooling ganache. "I saw it as an opportunity." After working at the White Dog, Doyle wanted to pursue a career that would partner his business sense, love of food, and piqued interest in sustainable agriculture.

High-end chocolate, still a small portion of a $13 billion chocolate industry, seemed like an intriguing option. It was a relatively untapped market, and the foodie in Doyle liked the myriad flavor possibilities. Consumers of specialty chocolate want to know what they are going to get when they bite into the confection, and in the case of a Jubilee chocolate, consumers read about organic raspberries, strawberries, and lemongrass grown by farmer Glenn Brendle in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; aromatic, shade-grown Mexican coffee from the fair-wage Mut Vitz cooperative; and biodynamically grown ginger from Papohaku Farm in Hawaii.

Doyle began by experimenting with chocolate recipes in his Philadelphia apartment, hosting tastings for his neighbors. His technique improved, but he was still an amateur, so he approached Robert Bennett, then the pastry chef at Philadelphia's vaunted Le Bec-Fin. "A lot of people asked to work in our kitchen," Bennett recalls. "I always said no." But he gave Doyle advice, recommending some professional-level cookbooks. When Doyle returned with the chocolates he had concocted from the complex recipes, Bennett welcomed him into the small pastry kitchen. "He was really passionate about [his craft]. He was paying attention to every detail and striving for perfection. His chocolates easily blew away all the major producers like Godiva."

■

IF YOU ORDER A BOX of Jubilee chocolates—$36.50 for a 28-piece box—you'll find a peppermint variety that would be a distant cousin, many times removed, of a Peppermint Pattie. The mint in this confection is tended and harvested by students at Philadelphia's inner-city University City High School, and it's gently melded with hot cream in Jubilee's North Philly kitchens. When the spicy, cool flavors have been coaxed from the leaves, the cream is strained and poured over 40-percent Valrhona milk chocolate and sprinkled with sugar. The resulting ganache is poured into shallow rectangular molds and hand painted with a thin coat of chocolate. Once the ganache has set, it's sliced into one-inch squares and enrobed in more rich Valrhona. Each square is marked with an *X* and packed in a plain wooden box with a satin ribbon and an insert about the University City High School students and the Valrhona chocolate. Social responsibility has never tasted this good: The slight resistance of the brittle chocolate shell gives way to melting memories of mint juleps and sultry Southern afternoons that make you forget all about Pattie, but just might make you remember the students of UCHS. That, for Doyle, is the recipe for success.

April White is the food editor at Philadephia Magazine.

Duly Noted

A chronicle of small-town life in Alaska headlines our fall reading selections.

By Blair Kloman, M.A. '94

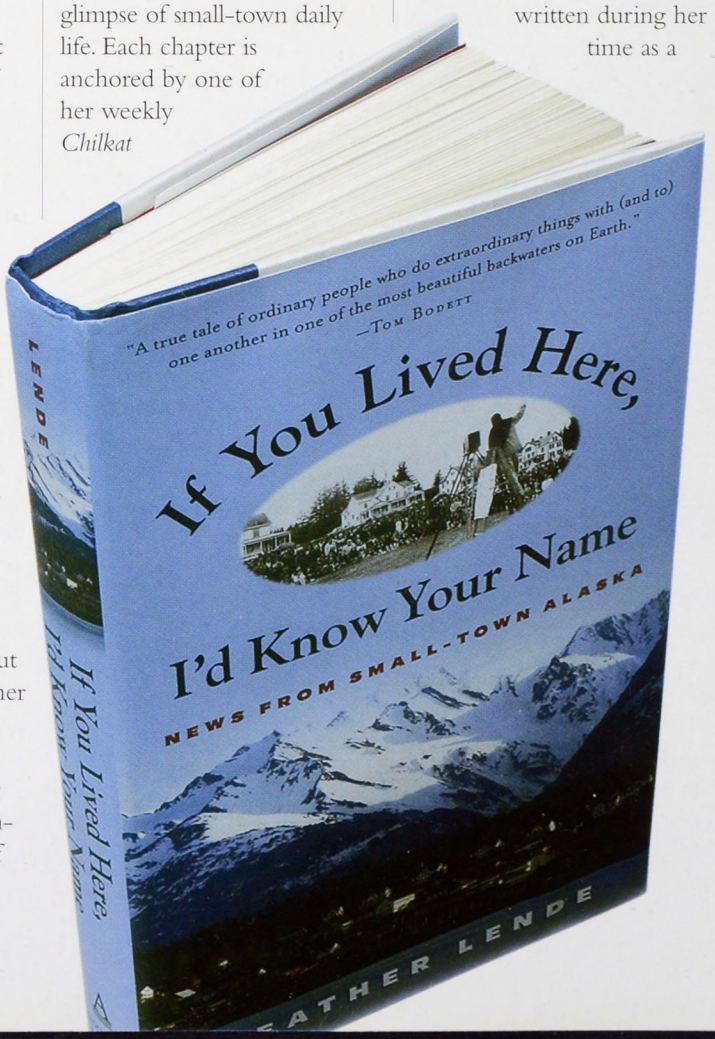
There's Speedy Joe, who actually does nothing quickly and wears only a red union suit and a wide-brimmed hat (which he won't remove, even for a haircut). There's the school principal, who is also a Roy Orbison impersonator and regales the school crowds with his rendition of "Pretty Woman" at annual fundraisers. And then there's the local banker who wears Hawaiian shirts to his glass-walled office filled with tropical plants and lava lamps. Add to this lively mix a healthy sampling of optimistic liberals, weathered natives, and outdoor enthusiasts, and you pretty much have the endearing cast of characters who inhabit Haines, Alaska, population 2,400 (not including the moose, bear, and eagles).

One of those all-too-real characters is **Heather Vuillet Lende '81**, author of *If You Lived Here, I'd Know Your Name: News from Small-Town Alaska*. Though she's changed her neighbors' names to protect their privacy, the stories she tells are all wonderfully true. Lende is a columnist and obituary writer for her local paper, the *Chilkat Valley News*, as well as a regular contributor to the *Anchorage Daily News*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, and *National Public Radio*. She writes of her hometown with a straightforward nonchalance that makes her quirky tales seem less outlandish than simply enjoyable.

"This all came about when an editor heard my radio essays on *NPR* about life in Haines," explains Lende. "So she contacted me and asked if I'd be interested in writing a book. Originally it was going to be a reprint of my essays, but, as things evolved, we both thought it should be a longer book of newer pieces that used my small-town writing experiences as a foundation."

Ninety miles north of Juneau, Haines is a remote southeast Alaskan town that rests amid mountains and glaciers along one of North America's longest fjords. There are no traffic lights or fast-food joints, and all the townspeople collect their own mail at the local post office in a kind of enforced socialization. Travel in and out of Haines is by ferry—weather permitting, which means hardly ever—or by small plane, which entails weaving around cloud-covered mountains in a dangerous game of peek-a-boo. Needless to say, those who settle in Haines are often loath to leave. And yet, despite all this (or perhaps because of it), Haines is touted as a not-to-be-missed Alaskan travel gem: cruise ships visit regularly, Glacier Bay National Park is nearby, and *Outside* magazine recently listed it as a "dream town."

Lende, however, gives us a refreshingly non-touristy glimpse of small-town daily life. Each chapter is anchored by one of her weekly *Chilkat Valley News* columns—perfunctorily entitled "Duly Noted." These short and sweet around-town pieces offer a sampling of seemingly random happenings, but as chapter epigraphs they highlight the fact that no news is too weird or too banal to make the grade in Haines. The chapters include broader reflections and reminiscences of the stories and obituaries that Lende has written during her time as a


"A true tale of ordinary people who do extraordinary things with (and to) one another in one of the most beautiful backwaters on Earth."
—Tom Bodett
If You Lived Here,
I'd Know Your Name
NEWS FROM SMALL-TOWN ALASKA
HEATHER LENDE
LENDE
If You Lived Here, I'd Know Your Name

reporter. As you'd expect of such a small town—where she really *does* know everyone—her columns often celebrate the lives and deaths of friends, so Lende infuses much of her own personal sensibilities to these expanded musings.

"My greater goal with this book, I suppose," says Lende, "is to honor the experience of daily life here in Haines—regular people living in an amazing place. Because the people who really make a difference in our lives aren't always the ones in the news. Those are the people I wanted to capture in this book.

"At the end of the day," adds Lende, "Haines is still far from most places, cold and wet, dark all winter, and hard to get in and out of. Which suits most of us here just fine."

■

IN A MASCULINE EMBODIMENT of the wistful lament "always a bridesmaid never a bride," **DAN ELISH '83** delivers unto us Henry Mann. As the beleaguered protagonist of *Nine Wives,* Henry's relentless fantasies of marital bliss form the foundation of the story, and each chapter is titled for the woman he pursues—nine women in nine chapters, with a surprisingly hopeful tenth to close the tale.

Henry Mann has been a lonely guest at one too many weddings. In an effort to fast-forward to his own matrimonial march, he enters the dating pool with fierce determination. So fierce, in fact, that within minutes of meeting each of his ensuing dates, he has already imagined their family tree and golden years, not to mention the typeface for their wedding invitations. Naturally, his ardent wooing hits some bumps and turns, and, in the end, Henry learns more about himself as an individual than as part of a happily-ever-after twosome.

Elish, who has published children's books in the past, embarks on this first effort at realistic adult fiction with zeal. "I feel like most modern guys are portrayed these days as anti-marriage and grudging of relationship," he says. "Yet the guys I know are all romantics in their own way. If anything, they're plagued by their own insecurities and high standards." Elish wanted to create a character that felt both honest and real as he navigated the labyrinth of 20-something dating in New York City. "Henry's a regular guy. He just happens to get a little carried away in his fantasies."

■

AS IF PARENTS DIDN'T HAVE enough to worry about: **JIM TAYLOR '81** warns that popular culture—in the form of television shows, video games, and the local multiplex—has launched a frontal assault on children's values.

In his book, *Your Children Are Under Attack: How Popular Culture Is Destroying Your Kids' Values and How You Can Protect Them,* Taylor gives readers a hardened perspective on the pop-culture wave that bombards young people daily in America. The culprits are widespread: video games, television shows, and movies that parade violence and sexuality with alarming nonchalance; professional athletes and celebrities whose bad behavior unfolds daily in papers and magazines; and a consistent barrage of media that value beauty over character, greed over integrity, and materialism over meaning. These are only a few of the culprits he homes in on with razor-sharp fervor as he aggressively declares that, "popular culture can no longer be trusted to act in your children's best interest."

Thankfully, Taylor does not stop there. While it certainly seems that he has ample fuel for his fire, once his key points are made, he chooses instead to focus on productive solutions. Taylor, who is nationally recognized for his work in the psychology of parenting, emphasizes the importance of conversation when introducing new ideas—especially those that involve a change of habits—to young people. He provides plenty of options for taking action, all the while stressing an immediate need to resurrect five core values for children to understand:

- Respect is earned
- Take responsibility for oneself rather than blame others
- Success isn't linked to wealth or fame
- Happiness can't be bought
- Family strengthens America's values

While his direct delivery may feel a bit strident to some, his message seems valid and likely to appeal to a growing audience. One has only to visit the parenting section of any bookstore to find multiple shelves of missives aimed at guiding parents through a world where the impact of mass media has ballooned beyond anything we could have imagined 20 years ago.

■

While the chubby white-haired Santa is a ubiquitous figure for so many American children, the Snow Maiden is someone entirely new. **GAIL BUYSKE '76** hopes to change that with her enchanting children's book, *How the Russian Snow Maiden Helped Santa Claus.*

The story is written in English but sprinkled with easy-to-pronounce Russian phrases. It tells the tale of an overworked Santa who calls on his Russian counterpart, Father Frost, to ask if his daughter, the Snow Maiden, would come to the North Pole to help out during this busy Christmas season. Frost obliges, and Russian and American holiday customs merge in this delightful story.

Buyske studied Russian at Middlebury and has been a fan of Russian folklore since her first trip to Russia as a student in 1975. When not writing children's stories, she works as director of banks serving micro- and small-business entrepreneurs in Russian-speaking countries. Says Buyske: "Even in the idealism of my undergrad days, I never dreamed I'd be able to combine my interest in Russian language and culture with such fulfilling work."

Night Table

What's on Heather Lende's night table?

- *Where I Was From* by Joan Didion
- *His Excellency* by Joseph Ellis
- *Ordinary Wolves* by Seth Kantner
- *Deep Survival* by Laurence Gonzales

PHOTOGRAPHS BY TAD MERRICK

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Now we know why **Louise Thompson** is so happy in her Saxtons River, Vt., home at 99, an age she never expected to reach. She writes (with computer assistance): "I have 24-hour coverage in my home to keep me safe and provide company. This is through the Council on Aging and my family. I use my walker inside and chariot (wheelchair) to go outside to see the neighbors' gardens and to check out the sights of Saxtons River. I have a Scrabble partner, Sally, who comes twice a week for three hours to play with me. I read the newspaper daily to get the news I need to know. I love to read a good novel. I have four aides—Bee, Jean, Lauren, and Susan. Jean is the coordinator who makes sure everybody knows when they are working. She makes my appointments and gets me there; does my shopping and gets my library books. She is an excellent cook." How fitting for our classmate whose career was in social service to enjoy the services of this friendly and competent team. ✷ **Helen Revere Hatch** also recently celebrated her 99th birthday with son Steve. Helen drives, shops, and maintains her Venice, Fla., home, with Steve just a half hour away. She entertains at bridge, which she enjoys playing, and believes it "makes me more alert." She also reads widely and most recently "gained insights from Ari Fleischer's ('82) book *Dead Heat*. She writes: "The seasons pass so swiftly that I paid my 2006 dues right away to College Club, Woman's Club, and the Opera Guild. It seems strange to be able to enjoy the people and programs and teas that have been appropriately prepared by the younger generation." It is a well deserved joy. With congratulations and pride in both, Mimi.

—Class Secretary: *Mrs. J. D. Coombs (Miriam Sweet) (978-369-5595), 13 Highland St., Concord, MA 01742.*

31 REUNION CLASS

Well, we have our notice for our 75th reunion, June 2–4, 2006. Start planning now! You'll be hearing more from me.

—Class Secretary: *Mr. E. Parker Calvert (calverte@aol.com), 6251 Old Dominion Dr., #225, McLean, VA 22101.*

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Congratulations to **Gertrude Knight Cleverdon**, the only member of our class fortunate enough to attend our 70th reunion. She traveled to Middlebury from Peterborough, N.H., with her daughter, Ruth. ✷ **Ginny Easler Wilson** and her husband were recently enjoying a 57-day cruise, visiting Iceland, Greenland, Russia, Poland, and Latvia, among other places. ✷ **Charles Kuster** was marching, as usual, in the annual fourth of July parade in Leadville, Colo.

—Class Secretary: *Alma Davis Struble (Mrs. Robert), 1977 Marlboro Rd., Kennett Square, PA 19348.*

Alice Cady Russell '32 (M.S. '34) sported her Middlebury "M" sweater for a recent historical style show in her Columbus, Ohio, retirement community. The sweater was awarded to her in 1931 for participation in many women's sports at Middlebury. Still busy and active in retirement, she walks frequently and paints in watercolor and oils.

36 REUNION CLASS

Secretary McCoy continues to enjoy her ties to Middlebury, having recently entertained Robert Brown '45 and reminisced about old times. Although Louise had not planned to apply for a Dutton Fellowship upon completion of her Middlebury degree, she was prevailed upon to do so by the dean's office and Prexy and others at the College. So she did apply and did receive all the great advantages of a year in Paris, all expenses paid! Friendships made during that year have lasted a lifetime. She credits Middlebury with opening up Europe "and the remarkable understandings possible when language is *not* a barrier." One of these longtime friends acquired during that year in Paris came to her recent 90th birthday celebration at North Hill, Mass. ✷ **Roxana Lewis Blackmore** writes that they are lucky to have miles and miles of hiking and forests in her neighborhood of Rotterdam, N.Y. We are happy to hear that Roxana expects to attend next year's reunion. We hope to see many of the Class of '36 in attendance!

—Class Secretary: *Mrs. Louise Hubbard McCoy, 865 Central Ave., #L403, Needham, MA 02492.*

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We asked for memories of Middlebury, funny or otherwise, and **Nancy Blanchard Britton** recalled writing humorous headlines for the *Middlebury Itis*, the April Fools' issue of the *Campus*. Nancy keeps up with her before-breakfast walks, noting that she and her buddy were able to do 1.5 miles a day for three weeks last spring without a weather interruption. She was proud that granddaughter Sarah Weber earned high honors in a New York state violin audition. ✷ **Doris Cutting** has "nothing but happy memories of Midd" and remembers a light moment when a classmate answered the dorm phone, "Hello, this is the Grand Hotel. Nothing ever happens here," and the voice at the other end said, "Hello, this is Dean Temple." Doris said that, after a lifetime of driving without an accident and never being nervous on the road, it was a traumatic experience to be told that she could no longer drive. Fortunately, her brother, Charles Cutting '46, lives in the same retirement center and "will drive me anywhere for free." ✷ **Robert** and **Ruth Van Sickle Robinson**, back in upstate New York, reported that they missed the four big hurricanes of 2004 in Florida, none of which damaged their home. Ruth has recovered nicely from a total knee replacement, walking unassisted, and continues with home therapy exercises. Last winter the Robinsons hosted two children and a grandson and welcomed two new grandchildren into their family. Bob and Van are still pursuing their classmates' annual fund contributions and hope you will respond if you haven't already. ✷ Yours truly, **Marsh Sewell**, was honored to be inducted into the Lakewood (N.J.) High School Alumni Hall of Fame, presumably for helping preserve the town's heritage through

speeches and articles, plus my volunteer work for Middlebury and local senior service series of monthly newspaper features on interesting places to visit in New Jersey and nearby Pennsylvania and Delaware, grateful that I can still drive, take pictures, and write. My own favorite Midd memories include good times in the *Campus* newsroom and on Mountain Club hikes, highlighted by an overnight October climb up Mt. Lincoln. We stood at the summit, above the clouds in bright moonlight, surrounded by evergreens that sparkled in white ice. ✷ We mourn the loss of **Margaret Scherholz Delfausse** on May 26 in Warsaw, Poland, where she was living with her daughter, Abigail Delfausse '72. "Sherry" was an enthusiastic fund-raiser for Middlebury for decades and, at our 65th reunion in 2002, received the Alumni Association's highest award, given each year to a graduate for "outstanding service to the College." At Midd she was known as one of the "Jersey girls," a group of students who had graduated from high schools in the northern New Jersey suburbs and traveled together on the New York-to-Middlebury trains. A Mountain Club and Winter Carnival Committee member, she was Northeastern Intercollegiate Snowshoe Champion. Sherry lived in Glenwood Springs, Colo., and Madison, N.J., and for several years was co-owner, with former husband Pierre, of a toys and sporting goods company in Manhattan. During that time she studied graphology and worked on promotions for Lord & Taylor and *Mademoiselle* magazine. Later in life, after earning a master's at the New School for Social Research, she started a whole new career in fund-raising, working for the Staten Island Children's Museum and other organizations. She worked well into her late 70s and was also active in several charitable causes in Colorado, New Jersey, and NYC. The class extends its heartfelt condolences to daughter Abby, son Peter B. Delfausse '65, sister Elizabeth Scherholz Pell '43, sister-in-law Margherita Cosenza Moore '37, daughter-in-law Olivia Hall Delfausse '66, and grandchildren Sarah and Pierre A. Delfausse '93.

—Class Secretary: *Marshall Sewell, 20 Morning Glory Ln., Whiting, NJ 08759.*

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In an effort to have "fresh" news of classmates, I try to start "visits" with you about one month before these notes are due on campus. Those efforts are not always successful, but here are a few updates. ✷ When I called to talk with **Jack Cridland**, he was not at home, but I had a pleasant chat with his wife, Kathleen. She was about ready to go out and their son was there, so she said that she would write their news directly to the College. She did comment, "We're slowing down." I'm sure that sounds familiar to us all. ✷ I had a pleasant visit with **Winnie Duffield Taylor**. She used to travel West several times a year to visit her daughters in Tucson, Portland, Los Angeles, and the Big Sur area of California. Winnie no longer travels, due to vertigo, but her daughters were coming to visit her in June and July. Living in Concord, N.H., she often sees her three grandchildren who live in West Newbury, Mass. They are the children of Colden, the youngest of Winnie's five daughters. It was fascinating to learn that one of her daughters has been introducing the Montessori method into some of the public schools in Spokane, Wash. ✷ Recently **Polly Overton Camp** called me and it was a delight to hear her cheerful voice. Polly was looking forward to getting together with **Betty Osborne Peelor** for the first time in five years.

Thor and Carol Miner Gustafson (both '39) attended their grandson's wedding in a castle in Denmark.

Betty's daughter, Linda, was driving Betty to Southbury in July. The day after we spoke on the phone Polly was going to a luncheon of the Southbury Garden Club in celebration of its 40th anniversary. ✷ **Janet Randall Morgan** spent several days with me in June. Janet's husband, Dale, died last October. Her son, Randall Cook, and his wife drove her here and went on to Montreal. During her visit, besides catching up, we went to Middlebury to spend time in the new library. One afternoon Frank and **Eleanor Barnum Gardner** took us for tea at the Austrian Tea House near the Trapp Family Lodge. It was a special occasion in more ways than one, because the Gardners had invited Tut (Irving) Tuttle and wife Becky to meet us there. You will remember that Tut's first wife was our classmate, **Betty Gates Tuttle**. Betty passed away a few years ago. They all lived at Kendal at Hanover. Becky and Tut were married in August 2004. ✷ Stephanie Koenig, daughter of **Florence Hulme Miner**, called to tell me that Florence had died on May 14. We send our condolences to Florence's children and grandchildren. A memorial appeared in the summer issue. ✷ **Bob Matteson** sends a most welcome update: "Now have a great-grandson, Blake Masterson (3), a vigorous, healthy, growing boy. Also have six grandchildren. Still have my jack-of-all-trades consulting practice, mostly public affairs, public relations, event organizing, and antiques brokering. My wife, Mary, and I are still together, over 40 years, perhaps a considerable feat as marriages go these days! We have three grown daughters, each with families of their own. I also have a daughter by my first marriage, which daughter is the grandmother of my great-grandson. Geographically, we are now primarily in the Northeast (Vermont and NYC), with the exception of one daughter in Hawaii. Maintaining family togetherness is a considerable challenge, but we all try to see each other at least once a year!" Bob is also involved in various pro bono undertakings, including being a trustee of the New England Tropical Conservancy, an organization researching and educating about tropical plants.

—Class Secretary: *Mrs. Charles M. Hall (Margaret Leslie), 510 Wake Robin Dr., Shelburne, VT 05482.*

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Thor and **Carol Miner Gustafson** had a fabulous June. First was the Yale graduation of their granddaughter, who will look for a job in Los Angeles where her father, Tim Gustafson, lives. Their grandson's graduation from Annapolis came next, and then the new ensign's wedding in Denmark. The service took place in an old castle and went on all day and night. It was a "storybook experience." Carol caught a virus on the plane home and so had some enforced rest, but Thor survived it all in good shape. Congratulations to you both on your family milestones and your ability to cope with it all. ✷ **Dorothy Korb Carter** volunteers in the hospital records department, at the church food shelf, and on the scholarship committee of the Newport (Vt.) Woman's Club. In her spare time, she plays a lot of bridge. Her granddaughter, who received a kidney transplant from her brother, is doing well and has signed a contract to teach school in the fall. ✷ **Joseph Foley** says he's "still standing upright" and enjoying a quiet life. Joe is a KDR, as is **Jeanette Olson Gould**'s grandson, Peter, who recently graduated from Bucknell. Jeanette attended his graduation. Since she walks so slowly, the family arranged a wheelchair for her. She now knows why youngsters are so fearless. They are inured to danger while being pushed in their buggies. As a wheelchair user, Jeanette and her family had excellent seats at the graduation ceremonies. ✷ **William Heck** is enjoying a quiet life with his wife and is looking forward to more of the same. Bill says that life at this stage of the game is not exactly golden, but he would give it a bronze. ✷ A short while ago, **Thomas** and **Gertrude Bittle Murray** had all their family close by. All have now dispersed, except Martha who checks on them most days. ✷ In 1927, **Madaline Uhl Prior**'s Episcopal church bought a 100-year-old church in Alamosa, Colo. Now undergoing restoration, the church has recently been placed on the National Register of Historical Places. Madaline continues as treasurer of her DAR chapter. ✷ **Irma Fitzgerald Risty** lives in San Diego, Calif. A retired math teacher, she keeps her mind sharp by playing a lot of bridge. Her son, Nicholas, recently took her to visit their cabin on Mount Palomar and she found the views spectacular. Nicholas has three children: a daughter who is a special education teacher, a daughter who is a business consultant in Boston, and a son who is a Marine and was going to Iraq in July. Let us all pray for his safe return. ✷ **Norman Smith** has given up sailing, after a life of loving the sea as a Navy man. His sailboat ended up in Warwick, R.I., with a foundation which offers sailing lessons to inner-city kids. Norm gets pictures showing his boat in action and rightfully enjoys knowing that the children are getting a feel for the joys of a sailor's life. ✷ **Ruth Coleman Skinner** attended the graduation of granddaughter Alex from Johns Hopkins Univ. in Baltimore. Alex was invited to join Phi Beta Kappa, making her the third of Ruth's grandchildren to receive that honor. Congratulations to all three. Although left with a "hesitant" walk, Ruth's pelvis has repaired and she is able to drive.

—Class Secretaries: *Ms. Jeanette Olson Gould (jogvt@aol.com) (978-263-8151), 1055 Depot Rd., Boxboro, MA 01719; and Mrs. Raymond J. Skinner (Ruth Coleman) (rskinner@kingcon.com), Brainerd St., P.O. Box 52, Danville, VT 05828.*

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The Reunion of 2005 on June 3–5 was a roaring success. It was our 65th year and there were 24 of us who returned to enjoy the celebration. We were accorded all of the attention and assistance that this ancient designation deserved. There were several pleasant, helpful, and very attentive co-eds who looked out for us and made it their personal job to see that we all had a good time. Each one of these young ladies was an excellent advocate for Midd. ✷ A number of events were scheduled for the time we were there, such as lectures and tours of the campus, especially of the new library. That $40 million building is an amazing place and is beautifully designed to accommodate the needs of students.

There are an enormous number of study carrels (almost 400) and most, if not all, are equipped with computer access. Our meals were superb (not at all what I remember from my freshman days of eating in the Hepburn Commons!), in nearby Proctor dining hall. For those of you who have not returned to Midd in recent years, it is astounding to see the large number of new buildings that now occupy important places on the campus that we remember as open fields. In our day the Château was the end of the campus, but now there are several buildings beyond the Château. And the space between College Avenue and the Château is filled with a variety of beautiful buildings that blend harmoniously with one another. Fraternities are now a thing of the past and all eat in one of the several College-run dining rooms. ✳ President Liebowitz entertained us at a very nice luncheon and joined us as we had a class photo taken to memorialize the event. He and his wife were most gracious and made our luncheon a happy and pleasant time. He outlined his plans for the future of the College and it would seem that the affairs of the College are well placed in his capable hands. ✳ The Rev. **Ray Kiely** conducted a moving memorial service for all those in our class who have passed on. In his memorial prayer, he spoke of "our parents who dreamed great dreams for us and who with loving support underwrote our education in this place" and of our "teachers who considered it their privilege to share with us their discoveries and who taught us to think and evaluate in our search for truth and who, in many instances, became our mentors." And "for our fellow and sister students who shared with us this portion of life's journey—particularly those who gave their lives in World War II." There were 26 members of our class who have died since our 60th, bringing to a total of 127 the number missing from our ranks. ✳ **Bob Anderson** made an impassioned plea for each member of the class to write some philosophical thoughts about the College or life in general that will be of special interest to the other members of our class. I am hopeful that Bob will oblige by providing the first contribution of this sort, as an example of what he envisions to be the desirable contribution. ✳ **Bob** and **Bobbie Plumer Alden** did a superlative job as our reunion co-chairs. Bobbie reports: "It was fun to see old friends, attend concerts, enjoy tours of new buildings, and be amazed at how Midd has grown in size since our graduation. After our final dinner Saturday night, we all agreed to get together again in five years." The Aldens also reported that **Chuck Rumbold** traveled the farthest, coming from his home in California. ✳ We are now looking forward to our 70th in 2010. Please keep in good health, plan to be present for that momentous event, and in the meantime send me news of interest that I can distribute to our classmates.
—Class Secretary: *Dr. Loring W. Pratt (roachpond@aol.com), 37 Laurence Ave., Fairfield, ME 04937.*

41 REUNION CLASS

While revisiting her childhood haunts and friends in St. Johnsbury in summer 2004, **Kay Oldham Parker** also discovered the many changes in the Middlebury campus. Kay had a pleasant visit with **Carol Hubbard Newcomb** in Campton, N.H. ✳ After a break of several years, **Charlotte Gilbert Lightfoot** came East last summer for an enjoyable visit with family and friends in Dorset, Vt. During her two-month stay, they planted 100 trees on their property. ✳ Our heartfelt sympathy goes to **Mary Stetson**

A Passage of Time

Time, we're told, is relative, and it seems no one has taken that adage more to heart than Jean Connor '41. At the age of 85, Connor has published her first collection of poetry, *Cartography of Peace.* The publisher is Passager Books, a press dedicated to "honoring creativity in the later stages of life." *Cartography of Peace* features poems that Connor wrote during the past ten years. Connor recently sat down with *Middlebury Magazine* and spoke about her poetry, her influences, and her ambitions.

How long have you been writing?
My first poem was written as a teenager in a Girl Scout camp at the suggestion of a Girl Scout leader, who was also a high-school English teacher. We kept a friendship until her death, when I was mid-career in librarianship. She encouraged me to write, but my efforts were sporadic, at best, until retirement.

Did you study creative writing when you were a student at Middlebury?
No. There were no such courses then. I was an English literature major and read widely, but did not attempt creative writing myself. Most of the poets we studied were men, on pedestals, of other centuries. And yet, something must have been simmering.

When did you get serious about writing poetry?
About 1985, I attended a two-week workshop at the Atlantic Center for the Arts under William Stafford. This was a pivotal experience. All of us loved Stafford; he was gentle, encouraging, drew out the best in all of us. He also encouraged the class to critique each other's work. He was not judge and arbiter, but friend. The experience was so positive, the students decided to keep in contact, which about eight of us have done for some 20 years. Every two months, we have an exchange of new poems—a kind of round robin, which we have named *Verbal Events.* (Stafford had said that every poem should have a "verbal event.") When he was alive, Bill would also give us a poem of his own for each issue of *Verbal Events.*

Who has influenced your writing?
When I moved to Vermont in 1993, I was fortunate to find an informal group of about six poets, "The Lake Poets," who met almost weekly and shared and critiqued new writing. The discipline of new poems weekly was important, as were the friends. It has been the friends who were encouragers, who kept me writing, particularly William Stafford, Sam Prentiss, Skip Renker, and Valerie Graham.

How do you write?
When I write, I need the feeling of having some width of time. After I have a draft, I can work on revision in more sporadic bursts of time. I do a lot of revision, usually as many as 20 drafts or more of the same poem over a considerable period of time—months, occasionally years. Alas, I am not one to wake and rise in the dark to do my writing. I am not disciplined to write every day and certainly not at dawn. But I keep going. I am a keeper of notebooks. The poems are started there, revised there, and only much later typed. I usually write on a lapboard in a chair by the window, where I can see the beauty of the day.

Why do you write?
There is a joy in writing and discovery. I find something is missing from my life if I give up writing. There is a sense of dedication, too. Writing is part of my effort "to become all that I am capable of becoming." And writing leads me into greater understanding of my self, my world. Poetry for me is less stating a truth I already know, than finding a truth I want to share. There are elements of surprise in writing, surprise to the writer, perhaps to the reader.

What are your goals now?
At 85, you don't set many goals! But I would like to remain faithful to the gift.

Farquhar, whose husband Roger passed away in April after a long illness. His career as a newspaper reporter, editor, and publisher extended over four decades. Our warmest thoughts are with you, Stetsie, your six children, and their families. ✷ We were sorry to learn that **Jane Skillman Sara** broke her right wrist in October. "The craft shop knitting came to a screeching halt, much to many people's disgust—including my own." A friend had a cruise set up for the fall. Jane talks with **Peg Wiley Thomson** occasionally. ✷ Had a brief conversation with **Doris Wickware** who seems to be doing okay; **Denise Peloquin Coenen** is very comfortable at Noble Horizons in Salisbury, Conn.; **Harriet Hull Boland** is tired much of the time, due to pericarditis; **Charlotte Miller Karr** was going to Maine this summer for a week or so. ✷ It was great to get a phone call from Summy (**Sumner House**), who is well settled with daughter Elizabeth and her husband in Georgetown, Maine. Arthritis continues to be a real problem for him. He was having trouble adjusting to new hearing aids. It sounds familiar and we wish him the best. ✷ **Connie Girard Brown** enjoys church activities, a Bible study, and a book group. Although her eyesight is excellent (she can read without glasses!), she cannot drive due to lack of peripheral vision. ✷ Grimmy (**Edith Grim Miller**) was delighted to be back in the New London, N.H., area from May through October. With the exception of her mother, all her family have been born in New Hampshire; there are 11 generations buried there. She and Jamen keep in touch. Her good neighbors include Neil '44 and Marylu Graham Atkins '44. ✷ Jamen (**Frances Jane Hayden Trask**) moved to Prescott, Ariz., in 2004 to be closer to daughter Peggy Zimmerman. Jamen is a hospital volunteer and also helps others through an organization called Prescott People Who Care. "Planned social activities here at Las Fuentes provide fun and new friends. It was a good move!" ✷ Becky (**Mildred Becker Elefante**) has been having difficulty settling late husband Michael's estate. She gave up her car last December. Summer plans included a week with her daughter in Delaware, a visit from her son and his family, and a visit from her stepson and his three sons. ✷ **Elsa Norgaard Cullen** continues to enjoy her Connecticut environment and the residents, commenting that "it gets better and better." Her granddaughter entered Smith College this fall. ✷ **Ruth Carpenter Donnell** and her husband recently spent an arduous week cleaning out the Vermont camp they have enjoyed since 1967. Ruth, who was Jean Connor's freshman roommate, also does some poetry writing and formerly belonged to the Poetry Society of Vermont. ✷ **Betty Wolfington Ovens** is concerned about married grandchildren managing full-time jobs while raising families. She says, "I steer clear of giving advice." She has a new great-granddaughter. She and Jack have not moved to a retirement place, because their 10-year-old dog cannot accompany them. ✷ Busy **Barbara Wells** is state treasurer for the UCC, handles the affairs of a 94-year-old cousin, provides flowers for the church, and volunteers at the Sheldon Museum. Still living in the old "home place," she's thinking about putting up a deer fence; she had no garden this year, due to the ever-increasing deer herds. ✷ Packy (**Ruth Packard Jones**) had a great Mothers' Day weekend (in spite of steady rain) in Boston with her four daughters and two of her grands. Another very happy occasion in the rain was the Middlebury graduation of her youngest granddaughter, now with the Peace Corps in Tanzania. ✷ Last spring, **Charles** and **Doris Wolff Bartlett** enjoyed 12 days in Italy with daughters Connie, Christine, and Sarah Lee, and two husbands. "At age 86, we were able to hike and climb the hills of old cities, to appreciate history and daily friendliness of an old culture, and enjoy the enthusiasm of our children. Middlebury taught us to share in the world!" ✷ In April, **Jean Connor** arranged an afternoon program at Wake Robin in observance of National Poetry Month. On June 29, Jean gave a reading from her first published book of poetry, *A Cartography of Peace* (Passager Books, June 2005). Her editors, designer, and publisher attended, as well as an overflow audience, including **Ray** and **Nomie Winberg Unsworth**, Shaubie (**Margaret Shaub**), **Ruth Hardy Scheidecker**, Westie (**Helen West Burbank**), and Packy (**Ruth Packard Jones**). ✷ Jean Connor and Ruth Scheidecker later enjoyed a bus trip to Montreal to view an exhibit of ancient Egyptian Art. ✷ Shaubie took a 12-day Grand Circle Tour in France during April. She arrived in Nice, traveled to Arles, and took a boat north on the Rhone River. ✷ Ray and Nomie returned to Burlington from Florida in mid-May after a good winter. They attended college graduations in Williamsburg and in Dearborn, Mich. Another grandchild, Joel, is a student at Middlebury. ✷ The Unsworths "have kept really well" and "are gratified for excellent medical care both here and in Florida." ✷ The Burbanks joined daughter Cilla and her husband for an enjoyable spring week in Williamsburg and the Biltmore Estate in North Carolina. A granddaughter graduated from Harvard this year; two others are in medical school at Brown and UMass. ✷ Although having knee trouble, Bami (**Irene Egbert Lally**) still gets around and enjoys playing lots of bridge. She occasionally gets to see a granddaughter and two great-grandchildren who live near Saranac, N.Y., but she seldom sees her two sons and other grandchildren in Montana. Bami is hoping to figure out a way to get to our 65th reunion next year.

—Class Secretaries: *Ruth Packard Jones (Mrs. Charles), 4106 Wake Robin Dr., Shelburne, VT 05482; and Roger M. Griffith (rmg19@adelphia.net), 35 Skyline Dr., Essex Junction, VT 05452.*

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Please be in touch to report your recent activities and your plans for the winter. We love to hear from you!

—Class Secretaries: *Phil and Betty Blanchard Robinson (sec42midd@aol.com), 410 Buffington Rd., Syracuse, NY 13224.*

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Secretary Doe reports: **Jean Jordan Sheild** says she "doesn't feel 80 and some." We hope all of you agree! She's mostly at home doing fun things like bridge, lunch, gardening, and biking the 12-mile route around the lake. Jean and her husband went on an Elderhostel to escape last winter's weather, but they landed in Albuquerque in a snowstorm and then spent three days in Santa Fe, where they had to cope with a foot more. Jean had a visit with **Inkie Ohlander DePodwin** who, she reports, is still in real estate and quite involved with family affairs. ✷ After farming for 50 years, **Gloria Merritt Piersall** and her husband are happily retired and living quietly—that is, if keeping up with 75 nieces and nephews (now in the third generation) can make for a quiet life! They enjoy many family gatherings and an annual reunion. In between, they enjoy the pace of a small intimate community. ✷ Secretary Gale reports: While visiting relatives on Cape Cod in June, **Ted Peach** stopped in to see **Skip Wilkin Dimond** and Bob Rude. Skip was well and Bob was recuperating following a hospitalization for pulmonary problems. Ted's wife, Nancy, continues to do well following chemotherapy for colon cancer several months ago. Her strict diet (prescribed by her cancer specialist) excludes sugar and emphasizes organic foods. As of spring, Nancy's CT and PET scans were all negative. Good news! With the help of the state's fire prevention division, Ted had been making a gravel firebreak road and clearing brush and undergrowth from a 200-foot-radius circle around their house to minimize forest fire hazards. He sounded as enthusiastic and upbeat as ever on the phone. ✷ Ted's California neighbor, **Paul Liehr**, who suffered a fracture of a knee joint last year, is able to get around with the aid of a walker, but no longer drives. His wife, who he reports is an excellent driver, has taken over that function. Paul spends a good deal of his time with his computer and communicates by e-mail with acquaintances all over the world. Seemed in good spirits in spite of his leg problems. ✷ No one seems immune to the passage of years (except perhaps **Phil Backup** and **Stu Walker**). **Bob Byington** reports experiencing the agony of renal colic, with successful treatment by lithotrypsy last spring, followed this summer by prostatic surgery with a good recovery. He continues to serve on the board of directors of the Village at Duxbury (Mass.) and was again playing golf and swimming. ✷ **Steve Wilson** writes from Portland, Ore., saying that he too is getting older and feeling more aches and pains. He has sold his pickup and graduated to a walker, which limits his mobility. ✷ In Hawaii, **Pat Rogers Prukop** had a good result from a left knee replacement in September '04, but celebrated her April birthday by falling and breaking several ribs. By June's end, she was back to her usual activities and planning to have the other knee done soon. ✷ Reached **Elizabeth Scherholz Pell**, who now lives in a retirement community in Canandaigua, N.Y. She's doing less traveling now (says she needs someone to travel with), but was planning a trip to California this fall to see grandchildren (she has six). One granddaughter is a ranger at the Sequoia National Park. Elizabeth plays bridge, is still active in Alpha Xi Delta affairs, and served on the national board of that sorority for several years. Although known to most of us at Middlebury as "Liz," she says she's grown accustomed to "Elizabeth" and tends to prefer that version of her name. Her sister, Margaret Scherholz Delfausse '37, died in May in Poland. ✷ One of **Dick Morehouse**'s grandsons wants to become an architect, so Dick took him to Rome this year, with the understanding that the grandson would spend each morning and afternoon sketching, e.g., the Pantheon, the Medici palaces, etc. Dick says they both had a great time. Dick has recently been involved in the remodeling of the Farnsworth Museum in Rockland, Maine.

—Class Secretaries: *Mrs. Lois Groben Doe (loisumbie@aol.com), 4 Simon Atherton Row, Harvard, MA 01451; and Dr. John S. Gale (jsgale@shore.net), 24 Beach Rd., Gloucester, MA 01930.*

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Bill and **Betty Mercer McChrystal** were getting together with all three of their children on Mother's Day and again in August on Cape Cod. While having lunch with Betty, **Irene Ruthenburg Conner** reported that her grandson and wife have named their son Conner. It's a tradi-

The Lost has been Found!

The Class of 1945 banner had been "missing" for ten years. Designed by Paula Knight Jeffries '45, the banner was executed in felt by Jamien Morehouse '73 (daughter of Richard '43 and Elise Van Leuven Morehouse '45) for the 50th reunion of the Class of 1945. The banner is described as follows: "The quartered design represents our being fractured; the stars and stripes, the war years; Mead Chapel, the focal point of our daily lives; the winding road to the mountains, our lives then and now; and the numerals '45' elegantly superimposed." Those elegant numbers proved to be the problem: the banner was thought to belong to the Class of 1954! Congratulations to the Class of 1945 for finding their banner and for receiving the Gold Key Award for the greatest percentage of participation in a post-50th reunion class.

tion in the family to use the grandfather's last name as a first name. ✳ In March, Ed and **Jeanne Chatfield Addison** went on a Danube cruise with their daughter, son-in-law, and grandson Dan. While visiting new places every day, they liked having to unpack and pack up only once and having all meals on board. In April they attended granddaughter Jessica's wedding in NYC. (Jessica is the granddaughter who drove the Addisons to our 60th reunion.) In August the whole family was spending some time at the New Jersey Shore. Jeanne had talked on the phone with **Jean Peirce Verville**, who spent the entire month of April in the hospital and nursing home with viral problems. She was recovering and sounded "like her old bubbly self." ✳ **Jane Stearns Brown**'s little book of poems (mostly about Martha's Vineyard), *Home at Last,* has been quite well received. Now she's working on another one. She reported that she was "about to get a Brittany spaniel from New England Brittany Rescue. Can't wait. Friends think it is wild to get another dog at 83, but if not now, when?" ✳ An e-mail arrived from **Mabel Buttolph**: "My brother's grandson was able to snag a beautiful French girl for a wife who ultimately produced a beautiful son last summer." She entertained them in her home and then got to spend three weeks at Christmas with them: "I was treated like a much-beloved great-grandmama." Mabel was amazed at how well her Château French of some 60 years ago stuck with her. She and her niece took a trip to London in April. ✳ We were pleased to hear from **Barbara Hall Seay**, who reports that she and her husband are very comfortable in their life care community retirement apartment in Durham, N.C. "We are well taken care of, but are completely independent and take great joy in our two-year-old grandchild and our two-year-old great-grandchild. Sorry they live so far away." They planned a trip to Shelburne, Vt., to attend a wedding. "I do enjoy reading the Midd news, about the classes and what the College is doing. I'm sorry I lost touch with many friends so long ago." ✳ We regret to report the deaths of **Robert Yale** (February 12) and of **Lewis Ensinger** (May 16). Both will be remembered by many of their classmates. ✳ When **Tommy Ring Hennefrund** was gathering news soon after graduation, she found everybody hopping around in all directions. "In our more sedentary lives, I think we tend not to think of interesting daily events as 'news' for a newsletter!" We agree wholeheartedly with that thought—but then we read the following comments: "So, with Bill and me, the days are really busy, but we can't exactly call it newsworthy. Let's see, there's the house, the yard, the shopping, the dog, three cats, a daughter (who is divorced with two daughters and has shared our house for 18 years), and her Providence, R.I., sister (divorced, with two sons) who visits here in Connecticut on her way back and forth to the Vermont cabin where she and husband No. 2 spend many weekends. More immediate: Bill just got a new digital camera and so many attachments that he's dizzy. A kid lit series of books (published as Ring so as not to juvenilize Hennefrund by-lines on grown-up topics like "money management") took me most of last year; this year I reduced my focus to short poems, which have always been a relaxing wordplay thing. Bill and I both like to take workshops of one kind or another in NYU or New SchoolU each fall, partly to enjoy the city we lived in so long. A grandson now works at the Museum of Natural History, so we get to see him once in a while. His younger brother is still 'finding himself.' A granddaughter, married last July, teaches first grade in Essex and travels a lot. Her younger sister works at computering in West Hartford (lives in nearby New Britain), plays violin, and makes beaded jewelry. All this 'news' has little to do with what we're all concerned with, the Big Global News daily presented to us, all of it needing whatever practical and prayerful attention we can give it—daily. One small practical attention, here, is a 'beadware' gathering at a friend's home in July, a get-together to support the BreadforLife cooperative project for Ugandan bead-makers, women struggling with AIDS, poverty, and violence, who, for support, make their beaded jewelry from rolled paper." Thanks, Tommy. ✳ **David Stebbins** reported that son Andy '82, after teaching five years in Hong Kong, is moving to Perth, Australia, with his Australian wife and two sons (5 and 7 mos.). Dave and wife Irmy (Nierhaus) '48 had a great trip to Egypt last year with friends. They plan to go to Australia when their son is settled there. ✳ We appreciate the kind words from several of you about our efforts to keep the news flowing. Our motto is "If you'll send it, we'll report it!"

—Class Secretaries: *Dr. and Mrs. Neil Atkins (Marylu Graham) (nmatkins@prodigy.net), 70 Hilltop Pl., New London, NH 03257.*

45 Middlebury Reunion 2005 started out with helpful students assisting us in every way when we registered at Gifford. The weekend continued in this upbeat fashion, with opportunities to visit, to enhance understandings, to satisfy the musical ear, and to feel only slightly less elevated than a king or queen. Events scheduled, transportation provided, and sunshine throughout the weekend underscored our sense of importance. But nothing surpassed the pleasure of seeing those wonderful familiar faces of returning classmates. There were 20 of us. Jim and **Jane Elliot Brayden** enjoyed the reunion and also got to visit their son in Burlington. Carol and **Bob Brown** came; we all appreciated his Friday evening message: "I was a dual student—three years at Middlebury and two at MIT. I was educated at Middlebury and trained at MIT." Coming all the way from San Francisco, Phyl and **Robert Clement** set off aboard the *QE2* after reunion. Jim and **Marjorie Harwood Greer** offered to organize a bridge game, but the weather was too perfect to linger inside. Nicki and **Don Gilmore** have a new retirement home address (149 East Side Dr., #356, Concord, NH 03301), as well as a new home in Arizona. Hervie and **Pat deLearie Haufler** live at Wake Robin in Shelburne, Vt., where a number of Middlebury alums reside. **Priscilla (Pete) Hodges Heald** came from Chester, Vt., where she has lived for many years. **Anna MacWilliams Neville** arrived with her daughter and granddaughter. **David** and **Jane Robertson Palmstrom** are still maintaining their residency in Ohio. **Nona Fife Peck** reminisced about her father, Professor Fife (chair of the economics department), with Avery '46 and **Margaret Rowland Post**, residents of Kendall in New Hampshire. **Jean Williams Schoch** still visits Lake Kezar in Maine every summer. **Barbara Boyden Wetherbee** and Win are still in fine fettle with their dancing. **Robin Willits** reports a new address: 10 White Oaks Dr., #321, Exeter, NH 03833. ✳ Friday noon **Al** and **Joanne Higgins Wolfley** and I attended a luncheon in honor of reunion chairs. Other classmates went to the Gold Cane lunch. President Ron Liebowitz's words at all gatherings were most welcoming and informative. Tours of the new library made a number of us wish we could sign up for another four years. That facility is very impressive! A lovely dinner at Proctor Dining Hall brought together all classes that graduated prior to 1950. We of '45 gathered to share stories and memories. ✳ Saturday morning provided many activities, such as a 5K alumni run, readings by author David Haward Bain, and a lecture by Bill McKibben (scholar in residence in environmental studies). The 1930-1950 Saturday luncheon at the president's home, hosted by Ron and Jessica Liebowitz, was followed by class pictures and a Gold Cane ice-cream social across from Voter. Congregating for the Reunion Parade and

Convocation at 4:30 outside Mead Chapel began a memorable highlight of the weekend. All those wonderful graduates trudging up the hill—youngest first, so that they could encouragingly applaud as the rest of us followed. Then that grounded reassuring thump of the canes as the chapel filled to capacity and our president escorted two of the most senior attendees (one Class of '30 and the other Class of '35). It chokes me up as I write it. Here we wish to express our grateful thanks to '45's gift committee—**Robert Clement**, **Charlotte Hickcox**, **Mary Wisotsky McClellan**, **Jean Williams Schoch**, **Ruth Collins Shikes**, and **Alan Wolfley**—for their diligent and fruitful efforts, resulting in our class receiving the Gold Key Award, presented to the class with the greatest percentage of participation in a post-50th reunion class. My, we were all proud—and so was a smiling Al Wolfley, who represented all of us in Mead Chapel, receiving the award on our behalf. ✷ Saturday night's dinner, again at Proctor, was an opportunity for us to visit with new faces. Then Mary and **Phil Dunham** led many of us to Atwater (a new dorm beyond the Château) to test our dancing skills. On the way we passed the tents and lights of the younger reunioners, dining in white tents behind Forest Hall. It was a beautiful sight. The dancing music at Atwater was just right for our era, but to describe the originality and creativity of our dance form would be a challenge. One descriptive word I heard was "caving." No matter what, it was fun and energetic. ✷ Sunday many of us attended morning services at Mead Chapel, where the alumni choir embellished our worship, led by College Chaplain Laurel Macauley Jordan '79. Ian Douglas '80 delivered a challenging sermon. Then came the choir's glorious rendition of "The Lord Bless You and Keep You," such a beloved part of our heritage and an uplifting send off. Many comments were made about missing the many who were not able to be present. We had a wonderful time, but we missed you. In our next column, Alan and I hope to continue with remarks from others at the 60th and more news. And always we encourage you to write and tell us what is going on in your life.

—Class Secretaries: *Ann Robinson Walker (uwalker @medleas.com), 181 Medford Leas, Medford, NJ 08055; and Mr. Alan Wolfley (aw451bg@aol.com), 22 Canaan Close, New Canaan, CT 06840.*

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Janet Kasper Taylor and several members of her family are still highly involved with Habitat for Humanity—not only in their home state of Texas, but they have also built houses in New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Missouri. A worthy endeavor indeed. ✷ On June 9, Pete '44 and **Barbara Busing Harris** celebrated 60 years of marriage. Outstanding! They were entertained at a dinner with, among others, Milo and **Ann Curry Munier** and Bill and **Hazel Godfrey Murphy**. Barbara, Ann, and Hazel were Pearsons fourth-floor neighbors in 1946. Both Ann and Hazel were at Barbara's wedding in Scarsdale, N.Y. ✷ Last March **Connie Smith Carpenter** and John ducked out of the Vermont winter weather for three weeks in Fort Myers. They enjoyed Florida's warmth and sunshine; they did not enjoy the Florida traffic in that region. The snowbirds can really clutter up the place. (Oops! On second thought I guess that's what Connie and John are.) ✷ **Mary Naismith Means** flew to Arizona to visit her brother and his wife in March. Later on she flew to Ft. Myers, Fla., to visit **Barbara Flink Ewels** in her condo. After the two ladies finished watching hours of the French Open Tennis Tournament, Flinkie drove Mary up to her home in Gainesville, Va. While in Florida they had lunch with **Betty Bertschinger Saul** at Birch Country Club in nearby Naples. ✷ **Ross** and **Vava Stafford Brown** have put their Palm Coast, Fla., home on the market in preparation for a move to a retirement community near Tampa. Downsizing must be a chore. They most reluctantly parted with their 40-pound puppy, since he was deemed to be oversized for the retirement community. Fortunately, the dog found a very good home with their daughter in Fort Lauderdale. ✷ **Gertrude Hayward Schmitt** sent us a postcard about her many activities on Marco Island, Fla., where she finds it difficult not to be busy with the many things going on, including golf, concerts, seminars, and membership in a Red Hat Society. In May she headed north "to God's Country," a.k.a. Lake Champlain, N.Y. ✷ **Joan Campbell Shaw** and Doug celebrated 50 years of married life in June. Their children gave them a surprise party to acknowledge this great event. Attendees included **Sheila Schmidt Rowland** and Bill and **Mary Caswell Jones**. ✷ **Mary Jane Selleck Hellekjaer**'s recent visit to Paris was marred somewhat when she injured her ankle. Fortunately the injury occurred near the end of the trip. ✷ **Nancy Rathgeb Smith** traveled to Seattle to attend the high school graduation ceremonies for her twin granddaughters. She continues to commute between Cape Cod and her home in New York. ✷ **Jeanne Picard Johnson** and Art continue to enjoy their new life at Loomis Communities (20 Bayon Dr., #217, South Hadley, MA 01075). Jeanne recently spent a week in California, attending the wedding of one of their former AFS students. The wedding was particularly interesting since their student married a Chinese-American and the ceremony was held in a Buddhist temple. ✷ **Bill** and **Janet Shaw Percival** welcomed the June arrival of their second great-grandchild, Charles Robert King, in Colorado. Also in June, they celebrated 55 years of married life. Just think, 55 years together with nary a cross word ever spoken. (Snicker, snicker.) This past April, they enjoyed 26 days in Europe, touring Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro, Belgium, and the Netherlands at tulip blooming time. In Holland, the tulip fields and the gardens at Keukenhof were outstanding. Slovenia, in particular, is a marvelous little country; no litter, no billboards, no poverty, no homeless, no unemployment, very little crime, and no army. ✷ **Lois Brigham Selnau** sent news of the June mini-Midd reunion that has been held almost annually in Connecticut for many years. Attendees, along with Briggie and Elmer (Conn.) included **Joanne Davis Hohmeister** and Frank (Conn.), **Phyllis Faber Warren** and Sheldon (N.Y.), **Alice Thorn Laquer** and Ed (Pa.), **Nancy Rathgeb Smith** (N.Y. and Mass.), and **Kathy Rowley Tuttle** (Vt.). The June 2006 meeting of this august group is scheduled for Middlebury, Vt. In case you have been on a deserted island for the past year, we will remind you that June 2, 3, and 4, 2006, are the dates for our class's 60th Midd reunion. We trust that everyone has this information already locked in on their calendar.

—Class Secretaries: *Bill (wcpercival@aol.com) and Jan Shaw Percival, P.O. Box 337, Cataumet, MA 02534.*

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It is good to report that there have been some news items sent by classmates, although it would be of interest to all, as well as adding balance, if there were more. ✷ **Sally McCullough Sterritt** wrote of plans underway for a mini-reunion in September with **Jean Mace Burnell**, **Floralie King Millsaps** and Frank, **Phyllis Howland McIntosh** and Mac, **Janet Rogers Enzmann** and George, and Sally and husband Graham. This was being planned for Crested Butte, a former mining town and now a resort and skiing town. These West Coast area friends have been reuniting for several years. We will expect a report on their activities together another time. ✷ The Vermont group of classmates met in Barre in May, as reported in a call from **Lynn Bruhn**. **Jean Davis Battey** was in charge, apparently, but no report has been forthcoming. Lynn (who was not able to go because of previous commitments) reported that **Alice Neef Perine** is fine and keeping busy in Middlebury activities. Lynn also spoke of having attended the Middlebury graduation of **Jean Taggart Lindblad**'s grandson, Andy. Recovering well from her bout of illness and treatment, Lynn is still enjoying her two dogs, both Yorkies. ✷ Another welcome caller was **Marion Durkee Stillman**, who is enjoying involvement in Rockport, Mass., activities. Marion also reports visits with her children in their homes in other parts of the country. Many classmates report families spread far and wide, which means travels and visits keep us busy. ✷ **Jinny Stowell James** and husband Bill have a Florida visit ahead this winter to visit their daughter. Meanwhile they marked their 55th wedding anniversary in late June, while recalling that **Alice DeLorenzo Stansbury** was one of their bridesmaids. Alice is traveling some to time shares or family visits, she reports. ✷ **Mary Pitz Hunt** says she is "taking it easy" these days and watching her blood pressure, but also seeing her grandchildren and step-grandchildren whenever she can. There's even a great-grandchild in this picture! ✷ **Mollie Stevens Chesbrough**, who missed the Vermont group's spring mini-reunion because of another commitment, admits to some familiar aches and to slowing down a bit, but she is also very upbeat about all that she CAN do and does! ✷ I had a welcome chat with Corky (**Mary Corcoran**). After living in Rowayton, Conn., for many years, she has her house on the market. She's planning a move to Fearington, N.C., near Chapel Hill, to a three-level continuing care community called Galloway Ridge. This development is under the auspices of Duke University and Corky looks forward to enjoying programs, courses, lectures, and other things presented by the university. She says she talks occasionally with **Dottie Lindemann Horn**. ✷ Also about to move are **Philip** and Jean Sloan '49 **Briggs**. They have sold their house in Arizona and bought a new one there (36896 104th Place in Scottsdale). Phil was, however, at their Vermont home in Shelburne when your secretary's phone call reached him. He says that he and Jean are fine and enjoy the golfing in Arizona and the cool, fresh air of Vermont when summer heat drives them north!

—Class Secretary: *Virginia Stowell James (jinnyjamvsj @att.net), 373 Reeds Gap Rd., Northford, CT 06472.*

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Secretary Ness reports: It was my good luck to spend time with Dick and **Jean Huey Smolens** and Dave '44 and **Irmy Nierhaus Stebbins** twice during the spring—first at Jenners Pond in West Grove, Pa., where they are neighbors, and then here in Wayne when we all attended jazz vespers at a local church. Dick and Jean are both involved in the

Elderhostel program, Dick teaching jazz and Jean doing garden design. Among her worthy community activities, Jean volunteers as a foal sitter at the New Bolton Large Animal Hospital NICU, staffed by the UPenn School of Veterinary Medicine. Foal sitters monitor distressed newborn foals, alerting the doctors when any response occurs. ✳ Although **Nancy Weale McGuire** has been tempted to sell her large home and purchase something smaller, she cannot bear the thought of leaving her garden. In fact, she has added another section to her "upper garden." Having visited Nan during the growing season, I can tell all of you that her gardens are spectacular. ✳ **Dick** and **Janet Goeltz Robinson** winter at Pamlico Plantation, near Washington, N.C., and spend their summers at Point Salubrious in Chaumont, N.Y., near the Thousand Islands. While up north, Dick and Goeltzie sail with Canadian friends on Lake Ontario, as they've given up living on their sailboat. They get together with Don and **Jane Drummond Hanlon**, who live in the Syracuse area. Speaking of Jane Hanlon, she told me last year that she wished that Don would give up competitive running for something less physically demanding, like golf. A recent note from Jane states that Don had entered another Seniors' Race in Cortland, N.Y., in June, so it would appear he hasn't joined the local golf club yet. ✳ **Livia Rosman** reports that, in 2004, "we drove a new Volvo from Sweden to Spain and back again, after spending one month in Spain, one month in France, and one month in Germany and Switzerland. This spring our son-in-law, Michael Shellenberger, spoke at a Middlebury conference. Small world!" ✳ Secretary Nourse reports: Thanks to open-heart surgery nine years ago, **John Carter** is doing very well in Short Hills, N.J. John expresses gratitude for the good work of **Dan** and **Joan Tyler Gilbert** as immediate-past class secretaries. He also had great comments about the column by President Ron Liebowitz and the winter issue en toto. ✳ **Jack** and Edie Gordon '47 **Dawson** have long lived in Grinnell, Iowa, where Dr. Jack served on the faculty of Grinnell College. They haven't been back to Middlebury in a long time, "but *may* be back for our 60th reunion." Edie and Tiffany Black Nourse '47 were roommates in their freshman year. ✳ **Edith Titus Harman** and husband Mort '47 live both in Middlebury and here in Cape Cod in Orleans. Seeing a Vermont license outside a small shoppe here in Brewster, we went into the store and asked "Who's from Vermont?" Edith responded and we had a great chat. (Caution: we class secretaries have to get news one way or another). ✳ Rockville, Md., is home base for **Jim Campbell** and his wife, but they've traveled the world many times. Safety precautions have curtailed their travels lately. They love river cruises; their last trip was down the Rhine to the vineyards. Jim is a native of Rhode Island and a Life Scout. The Red Boy Scout Council was my favorite assignment in my 37-year career with the BSA, so we had a great chat! ✳ **Whitey Frew** was out playing golf when I called, but I had a nice conversation with **Judy Little Frew**. She reports that all is well with them. ✳ Manchester (Conn.) Community College has dedicated a library garden in memory of **Bill Johnson**, who died last March. In a ceremony held in June, Bill was remembered for his service to the college. A memorial appeared in the summer issue. ✳ We extend our thoughts and prayers to **Liz Bredenberg Ness** and her family in the loss of her son-in-law. Thanks, Liz, for being a very good co-secretary, and for being so very upbeat—all the time.

—Class Secretaries: *Elizabeth Bredenberg Ness (elizabeth.ness@att.net), 412 N. Wayne Ave., #109, Wayne, PA 19087; and Bartley Nourse (brierpatchcc1@juno.com), 73 Brier Ln., Brewster, MA 02631.*

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As a volunteer for the Natick Historical Society, rare book dealer **Roger Casavant** was sorting some materials and came across some rare finds indeed. A copy of Hawthorne's *Scarlet Letter* turned up, containing more than 700 correction marks and comments, many believed to be in the author's own hand. This earliest known copy of *The Scarlet Letter* was auctioned for $54,100, setting a record for 19th-century American literature, according to an official at Christie's in NYC where it was sold in December. Reports of the discovery and its subsequent auction by Christie's appeared in newspapers and the Internet news services all over the world. Roger reports that two Boston television crews visited him at his home, plus he did numerous phone interviews with New England newspapers and several radio interviews. Roger reports: "Little old ladies from Texas, Michigan, Vermont, and Massachusetts telephoned me and wrote to me asking if this or that book which they owned was valuable. I accommodated all of them as best I could. Of course I could not nor would not give them any idea of value without examining the book and collating it. I did advise them, however, when a book was valuable, as most of them were. After all of the excitement died down, I came to feel like the Maytag appliance repairman, sitting by a telephone which never rang. Lately though, the situation has changed as I have unearthed several new 'gems' while examining books and artifacts at the Natick Historical Society. Most of them were appearing in a June 14 auction at Christie's. One of the items was a London almanac presented to George Washington; he signed it and presented it to an as-yet unidentified man (estimated value $5,000–$25,000). Another item I unearthed was a 1768 American catechism, which turned out to be the only known copy. Later I unearthed a 14-inch by 9-inch colored drawing of Harpers Ferry (ca April 1861). If, as I have surmised, this is the only known rendering of what Harpers Ferry looked like at the start of the Civil War, it is invaluable. Christie's has accepted it for auction." Roger keeps in touch with former Midd roommate Scott Buzby '51, getting together to reminisce once a year. Plans were also underway for a recent get-together with **Donn Barclay**. Roger's travel is limited to short trips locally, due to a debilitating case of emphysema: "Over the past month my health has shown some improvement (emphysema should only get worse). As such, I am hopeful that perhaps sometime in the future, I might be able to attend another reunion of the class of '49." ✳ **Tom** and Janet Hubbard '48 **Metcalf** report: "Life is fun for both of us, watching the grandchildren grow and mature. The youngest is 10, the oldest almost 22."

—Class Secretary: *Patricia Allen Guthrie, P.O. Box 1804, Wolfeboro, NH 03894.*

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Retiring secretary Paterson reports: Sincere thanks to our classmates who have sent us news and read our class notes over the past five years. And thanks particularly to **Peg Stearns Burdett** for working with me, guiding me, and helping to collect notes from our classmates over this time period. Peg and I welcome **Lois Rapp McIlwain** and **Phil Porter**, as they step in as your new class secretaries for the next five years. We know all nifty fifties will continue to feed the news, views, and comments. ✳ Although I was unable to make the 55th reunion, I see that 33 from our class were there. Peg was totally impressed by the group of student "hosts" who were there to make things go smoothly. Her statement that "they made me proud," tells the whole story. ✳ Peg reports on some awards presented to our classmates during Convocation in the chapel. Phil Porter's award ended with the following statement: "For his lifelong accomplishment in geography, international education, and crossing disciplinary boundaries, the faculty members of the Middlebury College chapter of Phi Beta Kappa are pleased to elect Philip W. Porter '50 to alumni membership." Phil's book, *Challenging Nature: Local Knowledge, Agroscience, and Food Security in Tanga Region, Tanzania* (Univ. of Chicago Press), will appear in December 2005. The book is based on research done by Phil and wife Pat in Tanzania in 1993. ✳ Another highlight of Convocation occurred when our class won the Gordon C. Perine '49 Award, presented to the reunion class other than the 25th and 50th with the greatest percentage increase in the class gift. As our 55th reunion co-chairs, **Sid Kaye** and **Anna Sherwood Young** accepted the award on our behalf. Congratulations to us for contributing $1,248,133! ✳ Anna Young later reported that she was pleased to have excellent visits with Ted and **Elinor Brown Phillips** and **Ginny Ringo Cleary** at the Waybury Inn at reunion time. Recent travels for the Youngs have included a family visit to Block Island and a couple of trips to Tanglewood. Anna also noted an upcoming trip to England, where her husband anticipated reliving World War II memories. ✳ **Barbara Wesselman Stark** tells of a recent beautiful weekend in Charleston, S.C., with lots of family. She still sings in her church choir, as well as continuing with her church service work. ✳ The Class of 1950 Scholarship Fund awarded a scholarship for the academic year 2004–2005. The recipient has been head production manager for the Middlebury College Organic Garden, a member of the Garden Club, and a member of Weybridge House. ✳ Hail and farewell, from Scotty and Peg.

—Class Secretaries: *Lois Rapp McIlwain (wrappsody@aol.com), 6 Post Rd., Malvern, PA 19355; and Philip W. Porter (pwporter@verizon.net), 10 Burkenhaven Terr., Sunapee, NH 03782.*

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In mid-summer, **Joan Allen Armour** informed us of the passing of Jonathan Morris, son of Irv '53 and **Ellie Hight Morris**, on July 8 in Breckenridge, Colo. He died in his sleep of a heart attack at the age of 38. On behalf of the entire class, we would like to express our sincere condolences to Ellie and Irv. Grandsons Malcolm (7) and Christopher (5) continue to bring much joy to Ellie and Irv. Mother of the grandsons is Julie Morris Ogden '86, whose husband is an English teacher at Governor Dummer Academy in Byfield, Mass. ✳ **Martha Jane O'Brien Fenn** retired in June from the Brattleboro Memorial Hospital Library after 35 years of service. She studied library science at Simmons College in Boston and worked at Bennington College until the birth of her two sons. Looking back on her 35 years as the link between the hospital staff and a sea of information, Marty considers herself fortunate: "I feel so lucky to have been chosen and had the opportunity to do something that is so fascinating and so rewarding," she reported in the *Brattleboro Reformer*. In retirement, she plans to continue work-

ing for the library on a per diem basis. She also keeps busy as president of the Brattleboro chapter of the AAUW, and enjoys visiting with her sons and their families. ✷ **George Terner** writes that son Craig was impressed and pleased to learn of the appointment of Ron Liebowitz as the new president of the College, succeeding John McCardell. While a student at Bucknell in 1981, Craig met Ron when the latter was leading a group of Bucknell students touring the USSR and other Iron Curtain countries. On this trip Ron reportedly showed himself to be capable and diplomatic in working with the people from the USSR Tourist Bureau. ✷ **Julie Ellis Weeks** commented that in retrospect she feels that having had all three children graduate from Middlebury has given her the most satisfaction. Daughter Kathy Weeks Cadwell '77 lives in Waitsfield, Vt., David Weeks '80 in Tucson, Ariz., and Brian Weeks '82 in Rochester, Mich. Julie only wishes that they and their families lived closer. She lives in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. ✷ Except for the expected heat, **Joyce Boardman Kurr** and husband David were looking forward to a mid-summer trip to Greece and Pompeii. Two of their four daughters were planning to join them. ✷ **Renton Bond** said time has passed quickly in their home of 19 years in Somerset, Pa. He's enjoying retirement, while wife Robbie Rey Bond '52 is a realtor much in demand. With 25 grandchildren, they never have a dull moment. ✷ Midd classmates in the Simsbury, Conn., area gathered (along with spouses) for lunch at the home of Harvey and **Carol Osborn Moger** this summer. Those attending—and declaring it a big success—were Jim and **Mary Sellman McIntosh**, Norm '53 and **Joan Allen Armour**, Irv '53 and **Ellie Hight Morris**, and Don and **Meg Curry Gregg**—who must have passed by at the right time, as they live in Armonk, N.Y.! ✷ Now that the 2005 reunions are over, the alumni office at the College is encouraging the members of those classes scheduled for reunion next spring (that includes us) to save these dates—June 2, 3, and 4, 2006. We strongly support that encouragement and hope to have a great turnout.

—Class Secretaries: *Charlotte Clark Hay (Mrs. David W.) (dchay22@webtv.net), 4454 Shady Ct., Rolling Meadows, IL 60008; and Robert DeLaney (wooded@together.net), 1131 River Rd., New Haven, VT 05472.*

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Secretary Cahill reports: Many thanks to those classmates who answer my postcards and make our column interesting! ✷ **Nancy Watters Bagg** writes that she has retired after counseling over a thousand people for nutrition and weight loss over the last several years. She found it especially rewarding to help children and teens to reshape their eating habits. She now enjoys doing watercolors and doing research on genealogy on the Internet. Daughter Deborah is a research librarian in Seattle; daughter Amy is a busy mother of three (from 8-20); son Allen, who designs for Microsoft, is very involved with two children and his church's music program. Nancy sees her five grandchildren as often as possible. ✷ After 53 years in Austin, Texas, **Rosemary Dellinger Garner** and husband Bill decided it was time to make a change. So they moved to Atlanta, leaving behind four children and 13 grandchildren. They don't know anyone in Atlanta, but now have a condo there and are thoroughly enjoying it. Any '52ers in Atlanta should get in touch with them at maryrosegarden@aol.com. ✷ **Sharon Locke MacCartney**, who has worked at Franklin Pierce College for years, sent a lovely

Tom Ryan '54 took a course that will allow him to fly light aircraft in the mountains.

alumni profile from the Franklin Pierce magazine. Congratulations to Sharon for receiving a second bachelor's degree in English literature from Franklin Pierce in May! Not bad for someone out of college for 53 years! Her new degree now sits next to her B.A. from Midd and her master's in education from Harvard ('53). ✷ **Florence (Bunny) Wells Frisbie**'s big news is that she finally became a grandparent three years ago and is enjoying her grandson immensely. She and husband Dean planted grapes on some land 42 miles northeast of San Francisco in 1981. After pursuing this as a hobby for 18 years, they decided to build a winery. Now Dean is busy full time managing the vineyards and Ledgewood Creek Winery (www.ledgewood-creek.com). Last summer, when a Bay area Midd alumni group toured the winery, Bunny enjoyed comparing the College in recent days and the 1950s! Ledgewood (located eight miles east of Napa, just off Interstate 80) has award-winning chardonnay and merlot, as well as Rhone varietals and a newly released cabernet sauvignon. ✷ **Caryl Entwistle Huffaker** is still working as theater critic and society editor for a chain of weekly newspapers: "I'm having too much fun to quit. Besides, there are 16 people standing in line who want my job, all of whom are convinced they could do it better!" ✷ Your secretary, Jeanne, continues to help with her six grandsons. The oldest, Bill's son Matthew, a junior in high school, was recently accepted into the French National Honor Society. I just returned from a 10-day trip with him and my son, Bob, to visit family in Cork, Ireland. It was a great experience for all of us to live in rural Ireland for a week. ✷ Our sympathy goes to the family of **Jonna Mauritzen Durden**, who passed away on March 18. A memorial appeared in the summer issue.

—Class Secretaries: *Jeanne Parker Cahill, 10 Old Planters Rd, Beverly, MA 01915; and Joe Davis (sensei@valley.net), P.O. Box 3, The Ridge, Orford, NH 03777.*

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Laura Chapman Rico is still coordinating a tutorial program at Los Banos Campus of Merced College. In order to lighten her load, she has turned over a math class, which was a combination of two classes, to another part-time instructor and a full-time instructor. She was honored recently by being chosen Classified Employee of the Year. Congratulations, Laura!

—Class Secretaries: *Verne Goodwin (vpgoody@aol.com), 4410 Columbine Dr., Vail, CO 81657; and Ann Golding Davis (sensei@valley.net), P.O. Box 3, The Ridge, Orford, NH 03777.*

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Secretary Ryan reports: Tom and **Mimi Thompson Adams** decided "to simplify their lives and downsize," moving from Massachusetts to a retirement community in New Hampshire. Located only a half hour from Manchester and the airport, they are still well connected. They have been traveling (Peru, Kenya, the Peoples Republic of Vermont, Sequoia National Park in California), and still retain their winter home on Sanibel Island, Fla. She noted that she was going to be meeting shortly with **Peggy Cooper Heald** and **Nancy Walker Faulkner**. ✷ I spoke briefly with **Ferd** and **Mary Lou Bayles Wyckoff**, my travel gurus, who have been everywhere. All goes well with them. They recently returned from a Danube River trip to Prague, pronouncing it terrific, but a lot of walking. ✷ **Barbara Taylor Blomquist** is writing her second book on the adoption of children, an area in which she has unusual expertise (two of their three children were adopted). She's also working with the St. Louis School District and a number of nonprofits, including adoption agencies, on the problems of adoptees and adopters. The argument of "nature vs. nurture" continues. Barbara said the latest thinking indicates that some 20 to 40 percent of a child's development is due to genetic influences and some 60 to 80 percent is environmental. Many problems arise with those children searching for their birth parents and, similarly, with birth parents searching for children. She spoke of adopted children being overmedicated for bipolar disorders, "when all they are doing is facing the normal issues of adoption." She also spoke of the differences between adoptions in China, Russia, and the U.S. Barbara gets to Florida from time to time and has visited with **P.K. Sadler**, **Jo Eaton Wagner**, **Phyllis Nolte Grootemaat**, and **Ann Heath Fay.** With her mother in fragile health, Barbara and Bob are currently staying close to home. ✷ **Andy Barnes** mentioned in passing how he happened to join the Marine Corps in the mid-1950s. Knowing that he was 4-F, he decided to take the Marine Corp physical with his roommate anyway—and passed and became a member of the USMC! After flight training (helicopters), law school, and private practice, Andy became associate general counsel of the NASD. He also worked in China, Indonesia, and Bangladesh, writing securities laws for emerging markets. Although retired, he's still an arbitrator and mediator for both the NASD and the NYSE. So if you have a problem with your broker and go to arbitration or mediation, remember Andy's name! ✷ During a recent five-day weekend in Colorado Springs, I took a mountain flying course (sponsored by the Beech Pilot Proficiency Program) to teach how to fly light aircraft safely in the mountains. What a blast! I was in Chicago recently, celebrating the birth of our first grandchild, a great baby boy. While there, I was taken to dinner at a trendy upscale restaurant by **Dana Preston** and his brother. A delightful evening catching up with Middlebury friends and oil industry problems! They live about a block off Lake Michigan on the near North Side. ✷ Whit reported an incredible lightning show on northern Lake Champlain, from the rock in front of **Jaycee Cole Miller**'s cottage. The Nickersons drove up at the end of June en route to Maine for the month of July on their boat. ✷ Whit also forwarded an e-mail from **Bill Skiff**: "A funny thing happened on the way to the barn this winter. Some guy named Frank Punderson '55 came into the milkhouse and asked the old Vermont farmer if he would repeat some of his wisdom to the 50-year class of 1955. I thought they

would forget about it, but I kept getting calls over the course of the year and finally said yes. So I hitched my best team and drove down in late May for the gathering. What fun! I saw **Gordie Brown**, **Bruce** and **Sue Heyer Byers**, along with Frank and a whole host of others. They seemed to enjoy most of what I had to say. I gave them a motto for a bumper sticker: "'55 and Still Alive!' Almost as good as '54 and More.' I'm still playing a lot of tennis and have worked two years, on and off, refinishing a 1952 PennYan Swift 12-foot mahogany runabout. I got a 1957 18-horse Johnson outboard to go on it. She runs like a dream. Got to go, time for milking, take care, Bill." ✷ Last May, **Pete** and **Julie Howard Parker** hosted a mini-Midd-reunion in the beautiful redwood forest they own and manage near Fort Bragg, Calif. Hiking in the woods were **Jo Verbryck Kissinger**, **Karl** and **Lois Robinson Limbach**, and Don and **Sally Green Risberg**. Will '51 and Carolyn Bennett Jackson '61 joined the group and entertained them at their oceanside home nearby. ✷ Keep those cards and letters coming and stay active, stay connected!

—Class Secretaries: *Mrs. Robert B. Nickerson (Nancy Whittemore) (nancy@nickersons.org), 4 Osprey Ln., Mystic, CT 06355; and Mr. Thomas C. Ryan (trn@aol.com), 3 Knipp Rd., Houston, TX 77024.*

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Jon Brand reports for retiring secretaries Makin and Punderson: The Middlebury Class of '55 gathered 97 strong at our 50th reunion June 2–5, and the weather gods turned off the rains just long enough to make it perfect. But if anybody was looking for the campus he or she departed from five decades ago, it wasn't exactly there—it had spread north and west beyond the Château and filled spaces that once belonged to houses along College Street and grass in front of Old Chapel. ✷ On Thursday night we dined under a tent behind the president's residence. In his after-dinner remarks, our host began, "As Middlebury evolves, many of the elements that existed on campus 50 years ago are still part of Middlebury today." He went on to say that faculty-student interaction is a key element in a Midd education. Some of the professors we interacted with in '55 are still here; he named them. (We would, in fact, get to sit down with Pardon Tillinghast on Sunday during the farewell brunch at the home of the Pundersons.) The relationships made here last a lifetime, he said. Also, 79 children of the Class of 1955 have attended Middlebury. ✷ We later attended an "orientation" with **Pat Hinman Makin** and **John Baker** at McCullough social space. At least McCullough was the same; women remembered the "social space" as their pre-Title Nine basketball court. We gave a big ovation to the eight undergraduates who checked us into Forest, carried our bags up to our rooms, and assisted us in every way. We stood and cheered as one of those kids, Matt Hershenson '07, was introduced as our own Charlie Scott's grandson. A high point of our reunion would be the dedication of Hathaway House as the Charles P. Scott Center for Spiritual and Religious Life, named for our recently deceased and greatly mourned Chaplain Scott. ✷ Friday morning's presentation at Kirk Alumni Center, "Perspectives '05", provided a presentation by President Liebowitz and a Q&A session with the College's top administrators. Then it was time for us to receive our "M" pins, Middlebury 50-year pins. ✷ One of our serious moments was the class tree rededication ceremony, which included **Nancy Walker Faulkner** and **George Limbach** alternating with the reading of the names of 56 classmates—plus our honorary class member Charlie Scott—who are no longer with us. **Bruce Byers** read Robert Frost's "The Pasture," because it speaks of our endless ties with our departed classmates. ✷ At the Reunion Convocation on Saturday we were celebrated by President Liebowitz, who "relived" our Middlebury experience for us, ending with these words: "For your 50th reunion, 97 of you returned to Middlebury. You have raised $415,448 with a remarkable 92 percent participation." For this we were awarded the Armand N. LaFlamme '37 Cup, presented to the class (other than the post-50th reunion classes) with the highest participation in reunion giving. We also received the McCullough Cup, with the greatest percentage of active members returning to campus—in our case, 43 percent. In presenting the 2005 Alumni Plaque Award, Middlebury College Alumni Association President Mona Meyers Wheatley '56 cited **Bruce** and **Sue Heyer Byers**, "two of Middlebury College's extraordinary longtime volunteers." ✷ And last, but not least, we have two new secretaries for the coming term, **Sally Dickerman Brew** and **Tom Lamson**. Please welcome them and send them all your news at their addresses below.

—Class Secretaries: *Sally Dickerman Brew (sdbrew1@mindspring.com), 629 Benvenue Ave., Los Altos, CA 94024; and Thomas J. Lamson (lslamson1@msn.com), 92 Heath Rd., North Andover, MA 01845.*

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We begin by sending condolences to the family of **Bob Lawrence**, who passed away on May 15, 2005. His friend **Bill Meyer** reminds us that Bob spent his early years in Summit, N.J., and graduated from the Lawrenceville School before coming to Middlebury. Bob majored in political science at Middlebury and continued to have a keen interest in politics. After his retirement from Wall Street, he and wife Eileen moved to Weston, Conn. Bob and Eileen had three children: Bob Jr., Ned, and Elizabeth. His oldest son, Bob Jr., perished in the World Trade Center on 9/11. A devoted family man whose main interest was his family, Bob will be greatly missed by those who knew him. Bill sends some wonderful reminiscences of some of his experiences with Bob at Middlebury: "As political science majors, Bob and I were required to attend and report on a town meeting the spring of our senior year, so we drove down to a very small town to observe the town meeting. The assignment was to write up what happened and the importance of these meetings. Bob went into great detail about the theoretical importance of these meetings and why they had to occur every year. The rest of us wrote about Farmer Jones telling about his cows and his fence, and about other discussions that took place at the meeting. Most of us received a C or a B on our papers, but Bob got an F because Prof. Bogart and/or Wheeler did not think he had actually attended the town meeting! We went to the professors and pleaded Bob's case but to no avail. During our sophomore year at Middlebury, Bob and I were roommates at the Theta Chi House. Upon returning to college that fall, we selected a large room off the living room as our first choice, but John Denny '55 and another upperclassman pulled rank and bumped us out of this great room. However, as the year progressed, we found out how fortunate we had been. The room had no heat. Even putting blankets over the windows didn't help. The inhabitants of the large room slept under piles of blankets and still froze, so Bob and I ended up with the last laugh." ✷ In anticipation of our 50th reunion, the yearbook committee met on campus this summer. **Helen Starr Ackerman**, **Sally Thomson Clark**, **Joan MacKinnon Houghton**, **Bill Houghton**, **Julie King**, **Ned MacDowell**, and **Mona Meyers Wheatley** scanned old yearbooks, *Campus* newspapers, photographs, and other memorabilia to use in the production of a 200-page yearbook for publication in late fall. The second meeting of the committee, with more classmates joining the group, was scheduled to take place in September at the Alumni Leadership Conference. ✷ A second annual Cape Cod reunion took place in early July. Gathering in Hyannis to reminisce were **Gail Knight Derick**, **Nancy Marvin Hall**, **Joan Houghton**, **Joanne Benes Kieger**, **Babs Bennett Murphy**, **Mona Wheatley**, and **Jane Hallenbeck Zecher**. ✷ Don't forget to put June 1–4, 2006, on your calendar and promise to return to Middlebury for our 50th reunion.

—Class Secretaries: *William F. Houghton (willho@aol.com), 16940 Knolls Way, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023; and Mona Meyers Wheatley (muheatley@uris.net), 32 Hummock Pond Rd., P.O. Box 3038, Nantucket, MA 02584-3038.*

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Sara Holmes Wilson writes: "Retirement has not been the lazy time I anticipated. Serving on three town boards keeps my brain functioning, and working part time to reclaim my daughter Connie's ('80) gardens, as well as my gardens here and in Maine, keeps me active, if aching! Events for nine grandchildren are a constant, but happy, diversion from the above work." ✷ "After almost 42 years," **Carol Van Duyn Terhune** reports, "we have sold our home in Darien. We are moving 10 minutes away to a house on one floor in Norwalk. The process has consumed us since January, but we are looking forward to the change in June."

—Class Secretaries: *Mary Ellen Bushnell (bushnell@mit.edu), P.O. Box 504, Peterborough, NH 03458; O. Sam Morton (sammorton@aol.com), Rt. 1, Box 786, Roseland, VA 22967; and S. Wyman Rolph (s.rolph@comcast.net), 2329 Park Ave., Richmond, VA 23220.*

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A long, hilarious weekend in June was enjoyed by **Mary Roemmele Crowley**, **Linda Mayer Horkitz**, **Barbara Bang Knowles**, and **Ann Ormsbee Frobose**, who gathered at **Ginny Davis Irwin**'s condo in Aspen, Colo. For Saturday dinner, they were joined by Aspen resident **Mary Stein**. Absent in body but not in spirit: **Joseph Mohbat**. ✷ At the same time, Californian **Carolyn Dwinnell Calhoon** was visiting her daughter and had a reunion with **Mary Bachman Wright**. ✷ May these congenial gatherings be a reminder to all of you of our historic 50th reunion only three years away in '08. Keep your calendars clear.

—Class Secretaries: *Stephanie Eaton (stephanie.eaton@leg.state.nh.us), 243 Pleasant St., Littleton, NH 03561; Joseph E. Mohbat (jmohbat@msn.com), 551 Pacific St., Brooklyn, NY 11217; and Ann Ormsbee Frobose (aspof@sbcglobal.net), 2370 Meadowlark Dr., Pleasanton, CA 94566.*

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Helen Rasche Baier, who skied on our college patrol, is still on the ski patrol with husband Norm at Mt. Sunapee (N.H.). Helen (a psychiatric social worker) and Norm (an architect) returned to part-time ski patrolling when their children were young skiers. Helen may soon retire from bringing injured skiers down on toboggans, but she'll continue to administer first aid to them. ✳ Retired elementary teacher **Sally Gray Bock** enjoys time with grandson Chance (7), her daughter's son. Sharing her biology background, Sally introduces Chance to water animals, including his red-eared slider turtle. Sally's son and his wife have a daughter, Sarah Danielle, born in February. ✳ **Steve Cohen** is still chief of urology after 25 years at Baltimore's Sinai Hospital. He has run the Baltimore cancer support group since 1992. He and Susan are having fun being grandparents to the offspring of Michael '89 and Laura '92. They spend part of the year in Naples, Fla. ✳ **Bob Fries** continues a busy teaching schedule at Anderson College, where he has been for 31 years. On June 25, he married Deborah Ponder. He writes, "Having way too much fun!" ✳ **Martha Gerhart** is completing Vol. II of *Italian Song Texts from the 17th through the 20th Centuries* (Leyerle Publications). In July, she was a guest vocal coach for the New Jersey Opera Theatre's Emerging Artists' Program. ✳ While enjoying their new condo at the Pine Hills in Plymouth, Mass., **Bob** and **Sue Chapman Hansen** have been doing lots of babysitting for their grandchildren (19 mos. and 5 mos.). They recently enjoyed a visit with **Harriette Moseley Purdy** and her new grandson. ✳ In June **Anne Martin Hartmann** and **Cynthia Hall Marshall** drove to Barre, Vt., to hear the Vermont Philharmonic Orchestra, in which **Granthia Lavery Preston** plays first violin. Anne writes, "It was really good, exhilarating even. The conductor comes from the Metropolitan Opera to direct the group." ✳ Last spring, a herd of 30 elk and 10 pronghorn wandered through the Flagstaff backyard of **Earle** and **Betty Layer Hoyt**. After open-heart surgery, Earle is "back to abnormal—bicycling, rowing, and photographing." Betty, who continues organic gardening in Flagstaff's four-month growing season, writes: "Retirement is great. As of June 9, we've been married for 46 years!" ✳ Anita and **Bill Hussey** enjoyed a trip to Italy in the spring, including a week each in Rome and Sorrento. Bill found Pompeii particularly fascinating. ✳ **George Jay** says he has "four kids, three grands, and is still actively developing a zinc/silver mine in northern Mexico." ✳ **Pam Payne Lewis** and husband Gordon attended the sixth Global Forum, sponsored by the UN, in Seoul, where they connected with a number of Heinz School alums. Pam also reported a moving encounter with five children representing the Children's Parliament in Tilonia, Rajasthan, in northwestern India. The Parliament was inspired by a project now known as the "Barefoot College," which can be Googled to find incredible stories. ✳ **Bob Luce** writes of his retirement from management consulting: "I had a soft landing, provided by my college teaching as an adjunct instructor. I'm also serving on the School of Management dean's advisory board at Marist College (in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.), an interesting role." Bob sings in a choral group with a tour abroad during alternate summers. With grandchildren in Philadelphia and Johannesburg, Bob and Bea visit South Africa once a year. "Our small condo on the Gulf in Fort Myers will increasingly serve as a grandchild trap and as a refuge from

George Jay '59 is developing a zinc and silver mine in northern Mexico.

Connecticut winters. I also do cycling, cross-country and downhill skiing, and a bit of writing. It's good to be active, recognizing that the greatest blessing of all is to have the health to enjoy this fun stuff." ✳ **Phyllis Leach Morris** and her husband, both retired, are enjoying life in NYC: "Since the euro is playing havoc with our trips to Italy, I have discovered the Far East. I've had an unforgettable trip to India and will go to Vietnam, Thailand, and Cambodia in February. Unlike recent trips these didn't involve biking, but I still bike in NYC—I'm glad it's flat! I continue to tutor pre-GED students, work on my photography, and recently took a memoir-writing course. Daughter Gillian '92 gave birth to her first child this summer. Our son has two daughters (1 and 3), and they are total joys. Thankfully, they all live nearby." ✳ **Paul Schosberg** and wife Jane, owners of Pine Lane Farm in Katonah, N.Y., have produced a number of champion thoroughbreds. Paul writes: "After careers in journalism, politics, and banking, I am delighted to have swapped a suit and tie for boots and jeans as my uniform of the day. I've kept one foot in the banking field as a director of community banks in Utah and California. In the not-for-profit arena I serve on the board of New York's thoroughbred breeders organization and as a trustee of the African Wildlife Foundation. Africa has become almost a second home to us; we were in Tanzania and Kenya for most of June, visiting AWF projects and renewing friendships with researchers and owners of private game reserves." Daughter Jill is a pediatrician; son Rick "has been training thoroughbred racehorses, including a North American champion and another horse who earned over $2 million, since his Cornell graduation." **Jim** and **Anne Weston McGowan** regularly visit Paul and Jane when en route to Maine. ✳ **Pete Watson** appreciated the calls from classmates he received while spending last winter and spring in Tampa for cancer treatment. Now back in the Caribbean islands, where he has lived for the last 30 years, he reports that "the docs say that things look good." ✳ The class of '59 has created a Web site: go to www.middlebury.edu/alumni/class_pages/1959 and check it out!

—Class Secretaries: *Lucy Paine Kezar (lpkezar@rcn.com), 134 Main St., Kingston, NH 03848; and William W. Hussey (billhusseyMidd59@aol.com), 203 E. 72nd St., #6B, New York, NY 10021.*

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If you weren't there, you missed a great reunion, starting with dinner Friday night under a tent at the home of **Vcevy** and Jane Cram '61 **Strekalovsky**. At their homes near Lake Bomoseen, Thea Baker and **Bob Cross** and Joan and **Gordie Chader** hosted Mary Lou and **Dick (Tusker) Atkinson**, **Peter** and **Jean Emrich Battelle**, Virginia and **Ken Fisher**, Linda and **Bill French**, Marcia and **Bob Hall**, **Dave** and **Sue Goodwin Hopkins**, Susan and **Sherb Merrill**, and Bonnie and **Sherm Russ**. **Ken Haupt** arrived just in time for dinner on Saturday, having spent most of the day in the Chicago airport, waiting for a connection from California. Charlene and **Phil Caruso** waited for 14 hours in the Philadelphia airport for their connection from Florida. They deserve medals for perseverance. At our headquarters in the new LaForce Hall, **Diane Keegan Curran**, **Judy Falby Tuttle**, and **Debby Wetmore** organized a display of watercolors by Judy Tuttle and **Paula Hartz**. Judy, **Jean Stratton** and **Judy Neese Woods** brought copies of their books. ✳ Judy Tuttle also took Deb Wetmore, Charlie and Diane Curran, and **Carolyn Ladd Maurer** on a cruise on her boat on Lake Champlain. We were pleased to meet **Helen Smith Folweiler-Chipman**'s new husband, Dave Chipman. ✳ Ron and **Pat Watrouse Messer** joined us for Saturday dinner. **Phil Miller** and wife were in attendance. Phil is the only guy we know who can tie a real bow tie and sported a different one for every occasion. **Chris** and **Cal Schmeichel** closed their B&B in Saranac Lake for the day to join **Dick Wilkinson** and **Andy Braun** for lunch in a tent at the Hadley Barn. Andy ranks among those faces we had not seen for a very long time, along with Richard and **Jane Willey Whiteside**, **Ken Haupt**, **Carolyn Mumma Elliott**, and **Lee Vancini**. They promised to be back for our 50th. The Sig Eps were well represented by Betty and **John Gilwee**, **Lowrie Gibb**, Lee Vancini, **Breck** and **Sue Hibbert Lardner**, June and **Ralph Cobb**, and **Al** and Jean Yeomans '62 **Lamson**. On Saturday **Breck Lardner**, Hooks Johnston (husband of **Susan Yates Johnson**), **Dave Hopkins**, and Bob Ray '59 (husband of **Polly Philbrick Ray**) made up one foursome on the golf course. Comprising another foursome were Don and **Nancy Mumford Mulvey** (who has the record for attending every reunion since graduation!), **Nancy Hill Griswold**, and **Carolina Vinciguerra Cassells**. June and **Ralph Cobb** played golf with Hank Prickett. Laureen and **John Rogers** were also seen on the golf course. In the LaForce lounge, we caught up with **Barbara Doubleday**, **Rosemary McDonough Natelson**, **Linde Hood Gibb**, **Lindy Hill Reed**, **Gretchen Augat Reilly**, **Anne Horton Ridley**, Dick and **Judy Cox Weiler**, Betty and **Pieter Schiller**, Tony '59 and **Jane Collins Garcia**, and Amy and **Mike Robinson**. On Sunday, Diane Curran and Breck Lardner sang in the alumni choir. The weekend ended with a delicious brunch at Kirk Alumni Center, catered by the Dog Team. Oh, those sticky buns! Mike Robinson nominated me, **Jean Seeler-Gifford**, for another term as class secretary. There was no opposition, so you are stuck with me for another five years. Dave is happy not to be addressed as "Mr. Seeler!" ✳ More news: Please correct two e-mail addresses in your class directories: **Debby Hodge** is dhodge@myvine .com and **Polly Johnson Stephens** is paulmelski@comcast.net. ✳ **Anne Schaefer Camp** has been getting settled in her new apartment in Enfield, Conn. She was looking forward to seeing more of her grandchildren, George (5) and Nicholas (4). ✳ **Libby Kelley** retired in 2001 from medical social work with bone marrow transplant patients. She's now working part time on a research project on post traumatic stress disorder through the Univ. of Mich. hospital emergency department. Daughter Meg made Libby a new grandmother and she

writes it's wonderful. Her other daughter, Merrill is busy being an attorney with the state of Michigan Court of Appeals in Detroit. ✷ Thanks for all the news you sent for the reunion newsletter. Send Jean a postcard from your travels.
—Class Secretaries: *Jean Seeler-Gifford (jeandave@mindspring.com), 1529 Steeple Ct., Trinity, FL 34655; and Vcevy Strekalovsky (vs@shrarchitects.com), 47 Fearing Rd., Hingham, MA 02043.*

61 REUNION CLASS

One of our biggest and most delightful surprises came a couple of days after Susan and I had moved into our new winter home at Sea Oaks in Vero Beach—a phone call from Janet and **John Kerney**, who themselves had just moved to Sea Oaks. We have had a great time catching up on what has happened over the intervening 34 years. John has retired from his management consulting firm and now they split their time between Cape May, N.J., and Vero Beach. Like all of us, they have experienced life's highs and lows. They have experienced one of life's most devastating moments, as Susan and I know all too well, the loss of a child. Oldest son Tom was killed in the line of duty as a policeman in South Carolina. Happily, they have five other children. Daughter Barbara lives in Hopewell, N.J., and has given John and Janet three grandchildren; daughter Katie lives a handy 90 minutes away in Orlando; daughter Wesley lives in Bear, Del., and has added one grandchild to the group; and daughter Kristen lives in Kensington, Md., and has added three more grandchildren to the mix. Baby Patrick is yet to tie the knot but has given John a distinction I am not aware any other Midd alum can claim; being the father of an all-pro national football league defensive end. Patrick plays for the Atlanta Falcons, so look for No. 97 throughout the upcoming season. John and Janet have given Patrick and their other children a precious gift, the example of caring and pitching in to help those less advantaged. Already, John and Janet are known in the Vero area for their hard work and contributions to Habitat for Humanity and for serving as a teacher's aid at a school located in a disadvantaged area. The family's public personification of the example John and Janet have set is exhibited by Patrick's efforts in Atlanta. He has chosen to honor the memory of his brother by establishing the Lt. Thomas L. Kerney Endowment Fund as part of the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta. The Fund annually contributes monies to three worthy causes. Some donations are used to provide educational scholarships to children of fallen police officers. Other beneficiaries of the Fund proceeds include Eagle Ranch, which provides housing and counseling to children from dysfunctional families, and the Special Olympics of Georgia. For more information, go to www.patrickkerney.org.
—Class Secretary: *Steve Crampton (scrampton@aol.com), 259 Hines Point, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568.*

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Scotti Wright reported that, in Vergennes, Vt., **Kathy McKinley Harris** was one of two poets invited to read their poetry on May 26 as part of the Bixby Memorial Library Distinguished Poets series. She's a member of the Otter Creek Poets workshop in Middlebury. A finalist in the *Sow's Ear Poetry Review* annual contest, Kathy has published poems in *Vermont Ink*, the *SCBWI Bulletin*, *Snowy Egret*, and *Potato Eyes*. In 1999 she was the winner of the Ralph Nading Hill Jr. Literary Prize, awarded annually by Green Mountain Power and *Vermont Life* magazine. She has also been active in the publication of a local newspaper and has many publications outside the poetry field. Scotti also reported that just as Kathy was leaving for the reading, she got word that she is the new grandmother of twins! Congratulations, Kathy! ✷ The Honorable **Howard Scheinblum** has served as judge of the Superior Court in Enfield, Conn., for three years. According to the Enfield newspaper, he was the keynote speaker at the annual banquet of the Enfield Society for the Detection of Thieves and Robbers last spring. ✷ News has been received from **Jim Warburton**, who hasn't been back to the States for about two years: "With the exception of the terrible exchange rate, life in Gaucín is great! I love my house. My neighbors bring me food all the time. I have 10–12 private students (all English at this moment) and that keeps me in contact with interesting people and gives me a certain stability. Every once in a while, I go to Morocco (a 35-minute ferry trip) for a change of scenery. Oh, a while ago I made a mistake and began feeding some stray, pregnant cats, and they presented me with their families. I am embarrassed to say how many cats I ended up with, but, suffice it to say, I now have nine—various sizes and shapes, all neutered. **Bill Dalsimer** declared me officially crazy!"
—Class Secretaries: *Liza Dunphy Fischer (bfisch@msu.edu), 11630 Center Rd., Bath, MI 48808; Bill Dalsimer (dalsimer@optonline.net), P.O. Box 1316, Southampton, NY 11968; and Judy Bosworth Roëssel (jbozroesset@aol.com), 11909 Arch Hill Dr., Austin, TX 78750.*

John Stafford '65 sent a bottle of 1965 Chateau Lafite Rothschild to his reunion with a note: "I'm there in spirit."

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Craig Stewart reports a "good get-together recently with David Holmes '64 in Seattle to discuss Foundations for Excellent Schools. David and wife Toni recently moved to Sun Valley." Craig writes: "We loved the article in the spring issue of *Middlebury Magazine* about **Charlie MacCormack** and David's sister, Carol Holmes Shattuck '67, and their relief efforts following the tsunami." ✷ **Roger Ralph** delivered the commencement address last spring at Harford Community College in Bel Air, Md. Ralph and wife Elaine, who have three grown children, live in Stevensville, Md. After selling the Bel Air Athletic Club, Roger was a business adviser to Bill Ripken and Cal Ripken Jr. at Ripken Baseball. He and a partner are reportedly building a multipurpose athletic and wellness club in Wilmington, Del., within a state park. ✷ A first novel by **Victor H. Thompson**, *The Trumpets of Jericho: A Romantic Novel About Bands and Musicians During the American Civil War* (AuthorHouse, $16), is available through on-line booksellers. The story follows a young woman whose journey to reclaim her love leads her and her father to find consolation during wartime in the power of music. Victor teaches at Thomas Nelson Community College in Hampton, Va. He also wrote *Eudora Welty: A Reference Guide*. ✷ After 26 years as a prof. of economics and political economy of Latin America at the Free Univ. of Berlin, **Manfred Nitsch** is retiring to emeritus status after this winter term. ✷ **Helle Thomsen Parker** is retired from teaching physical education and French. With children living in Worcester (Mass.), Ft. Lauderdale (Fla.), and Austin (Texas), she has five grandchildren, at last count. ✷ **Kaysea Cilley Ray** has been retired for 10 years: "In 1997 I met a man who was planning to go cruising on a 32-foot Westsail (sailboat). We married May 1998 and in September sailed out the Golden Gate and turned left. Now we spend winters in Mexico and summers in San Francisco." ✷ Now year-round residents of Maine, **Chris** and Susan Blume '68 **White** spent the winter in Bucksport and had a short migration to Cranberry Island for the summer. Chris invested in an Old Town kayak and has been "enjoying cruises on the Narramissic River from our backyard—beavers, turtles, heron, osprey, eagles, etc. Also some blackflies!" ✷ Letters of appreciation have been received from the recipients of our Class of 1963 Scholarship Fund and Class of 1963 25th Reunion Fund. The three recipients (members of the classes of 2006, 2007, and 2008) come from diverse backgrounds, and are majoring in premed, international politics/economics, and environmental science/politics. All express gratitude for our generosity and speak to the strong sense of community engendered within the College.
—Class Secretaries: *Janet Brevoort Allen (janballen@worldnet.att.net), 2 Arizona Pl., Huntington Station, NY 11746; and Christopher J. White (cmbrycst@aol.com), 347 Duck Cove Rd., Bucksport, ME 04416.*

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Be sure to send us a note or an e-mail about your plans for the winter and other news for upcoming columns.
—Class Secretaries: *Marian Demas Baade (mcbaade@aol.com), 4 Red Rock Rd., New City, NY 10956; and John Vecchiolla (vecchiolla@juno.com), 193 Byram Rd., Greenwich, CT 06830.*

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For those of you who were not able to make it, our reunion was a huge success with a 40th-reunion-record 76 classmates making the trek back to Vermont. From start to finish, it was a good weekend. **Bill Mueller** and **Fran Love** kept things moving so that we always had a place to gather and a selection of activities to branch out into. They had a lot of help from **Martha Saenz**, **Fred Stetson**, **T Tall**, **Pete Branch**, **John Kingman**, **Tana Sterrett Scott**, **Boynton** and **Barb Hazen Glidden**, and **Pete Delfausse**, plus some supportive and dedicated spouses. In the words of one returnee, it was "the best '65 reunion ever!" Some couldn't make it, but the rest of us were there at Middlebury, reconnecting, recounting, relating; it was memorable. We found that we are doing dance therapy, psychotherapy, and chemotherapy; we are CEOs and underfunded educators. We have kids who are 11-year-old anime artists, 38-year-old Ph.Ds living in Ketcham, ski lift operators, burger flippers, stock market analysts, and parents. We have grandkids in college and in diapers. We are people who passionately love their adult children. We run wind farms, law offices, and libraries. We wax eloquent about pecan farms, fishing boats, and ski slopes. We globe-

trot; name the place, and one of us has been there recently. Some of us are still working hard, some are retired, and others are anywhere between sick of it and loving it. We haven't lost our sense of hilarity, our love of a good time, our willingness to try anything once, and our appreciation of our Middlebury experience. We are amazing, still. I (Polly) found myself puzzling over who we were once and who we are now, how warm we now are to each other. What do we see when we look at each other now? Flabby, gray-haired geezers? Well, no. We are open; we have a sense of modesty built on gratitude and humility; we are no longer immortal and invincible. We appreciate where we've come from, our struggles and triumphs. Mingling through the activities of the weekend, we have left behind those early years of walls of fears that isolated us from one another—am I cool enough? smart enough? athletic enough to be here. We are people we genuinely want to know. We are one, masquerading as many, as Patrick Wells told me (Polly), on T Tall's back porch. ✳ One mystery occurred last spring when the alumni office received a bottle of 1965 Chateau Lafite Rothschild from **John Stafford**, whom few of us knew. (Technically, John graduated in '65, but he actually started in '59.) He picked up a case of the wine in Bermuda in the early '70s, had two bottles left and sent us one on a whim. He regretted being unable to attend reunion, but said, "Excuse the pun, but I'll be there in spirit!" A PKT, he recalls the ugly man contest and wearing beanies. The mystery continues! What happened to the wine? ✳ Two outstanding students benefited from our 25th Reunion Scholarship Fund this year. We can't print their names because of privacy issues, but one was a Bulgarian who graduated with her degree in chemistry, a minor in economics, and fluency in English, German, French and Italian! She showed up at our reunion to thank us, so we asked her to speak at Friday's dinner. "But, I'm not prepared," she explained. "All the better," we replied. Her impromptu speech left many in tears as she conveyed all that our scholarship had meant to her. The second student was a Texan majoring in molecular biology with a minor in biochemistry. An infielder on the baseball team, he hopes to be an orthopedic surgeon specializing in sports medicine. Both wrote touching letters to your class secretaries in appreciation for your support. "I hope that one day I can give back to others as you have given to me," was how the future orthopedic surgeon closed his letter. ✳ There were a lot of people who weren't at the reunion, and Polly began to collect the names of people about whom others inquired. So, we'd like to hear from **Dave Villepique** (who is reportedly making a big contribution to community theater), **Sally Doubleday Endriz**, **Jane Isaacs Toussaint** (whose son was a student of Bob Hall), **Alex Neely Robinson**, **Cindy Kern Ray**, **Svea Carlson Nardo**, **Trudy Fallert Knight**, **Heidi Winkler Lawrence**, **Whit Chadwick**—and about three dozen others before she thought to start a list. One of our classmates (sporting a Vermont T-shirt with cows on it) commented at our 25th, "You gotta moo to be part of the heard!" We'll have more to report in the next column.
—Class Secretaries: *Polly Moore Walters (Mrs. Kenneth) (polly@frii.com), 100 Grandview Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80521; and R.W. "T" Tall Jr. (ahmic@shoreham.net), 204 Clark Rd., Cornwall, VT 05753.*

66 REUNION CLASS

As our 40th reunion "social chair" (not a role I would have imagined for myself in 1966, I must admit!), I hope you're beginning to think about journeying back to Middlebury on June 2-4, 2006. From writing either a note or an e-mail to almost all of you over the last four years, I've discovered how much more we have in common these days than we did when we were 18. Come and find out for yourself next June! ✳ **Lyn Fulton Hayden**, of Rehoboth, Mass., brought together the observation of science and the aesthetics of art in an exhibition, "Fernwork: the Rainforest Paintings," at the Newport (R.I.) Art Museum last spring. Inspired by her experiences in the rainforests of the Pacific Northwest in August 2004, she uses images of plants, layers of handmade Japanese paper, glass beads, and acrylic paint to create what she calls "impressions of mosses, lichens and ferns." Lyn has been artist-in-residence at the Brown Univ. Herbarium for 20 years. ✳ After a sojourn in Calgary, Alberta (1990–1994), **Steve Perry** landed a position at the Univ. of Bonn, Germany, where he's now a prof. of vertebrate morphology and evolution. His main focus in research—the evolution of respiratory organs—has taken him to Brazil, where he has been collaborating on various projects on the structure and function of the respiratory apparatus in lizards, birds, and fish. The summer before last, he and a paleontologist colleague started a major project on the biology of the largest dinosaurs. Steve's part in this effort is to reconstruct the functional anatomy of the respiratory apparatus, including breathing muscles and lungs. In addition, he's organizing an international meeting (the First International Congress on Respiratory Biology) to integrate everyone who works on respiration in microorganisms, plants, and animals. "This is potentially a huge effort, and I am curious what will come of it. Either it will be a landmark meeting or a huge flop! So keep your fingers crossed." On the personal side, Steve has just gotten divorced, "so at the tender age of 61 am starting over." ✳ While collecting/forwarding mail for **Judy Enright Dunning** and husband Dwight '67, who are away in the Peace Corps, **Ann Parker Demong** saw my note and took the time to e-mail some news. Ann writes that the Dunnings left at the beginning of June for two months of training in Belize, where they expect to be for the next two years. Just before their departure, **Geoff** and **Val Somers Demong**, **Charlotte Stetson**, and Ann and husband Peter all got together to celebrate Judy and Dwight's venture. For herself, Ann writes that she is still teaching at the Middle School in Middlebury, where she has "moved from the art room to the computer lab, trying to interject right-brain traits into, seemingly, a left-brain subject." She is also enjoying all the wonders and delights of being a grandparent to a two-year-old! ✳ **Prue Frey Heikkinen** enjoys keeping up on classmates in our notes column and hopes to see many of them "at our, gasp, 40th reunion next year." Prue, who sells e-mail and file encryption software to corporations, and enjoys looking back over the vast changes in the information technology sales industry in the last 35 years. Looking ahead, Prue imagines "diversifying" her life rather than retiring, in response to the many places she wants to see and the volunteering opportunities she'd like to seize before she "leaves this world." She and her husband still enjoy living in a university town: "Nothing beats a college town when you don't have to study for exams or write papers." On holidays, they trek to U.S. national parks, or they just pick a state and explore it as much as they can, with no agenda in mind. Last year they did that with Idaho and found it to be "unspoiled, beautiful, and interesting." They even toured the Potato Museum in Blackfoot. Prue stays in contact with **Ginny Backus Willcox**, with whom she shares a love of birding, and **Nancy McMullin Fischer**. She also looks forward to "seeing the handsome King family (**Dudley** and **Rita Crocitto King**), who send such beautiful Christmastime notes with photos." She shares the sadness of other '66ers at **Will Sumner**'s death: "**Fred Stetson**'s memorial tribute was a fine one."
—Class Secretary: *Francine Clark Page (page@pshift.com), 19 Brigham Hill Ln., Essex Junction, VT 05452.*

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Our cultured gentleman classmate, **Bill Swift**, died in Burlington, Vt., on May 5. Bill was a farm boy from Williston, Vt., who, as oldest child, had to milk the family's cows before going to school when his father was ill for extended periods of time. He went to high school in Burlington, where he was a straight A student and president of his class. He discovered a flair for drama, acting in *West Side Story* at BHS, and brought that (and precious little of the farm boy) to Middlebury, where he belonged to Chi Psi and earned the moniker of "Trouble" in such escapades as driving a bulldozer onto the dean's lawn. He returned back home in the late '90s with his partner, to care for aged parents, volunteer for Vermont CARES, and raise prize roses. While coping with life himself, he always looked for the good in others, displaying a wit and irony in delightful conversation. As a fraternity brother said when hearing of Bill's death, "funny and caring, always the life of the party, and always, in retrospect, a little sad and lonely." ✳ **Art Bryan** retired as director of the Wadleigh Memorial Library in Milford, N.H., on June 3. When he arrived in 1985, librarians were still using a card catalogue. "Staying current with technology has helped us thrive," he reports. A semi-professional musician, Art plays seven instruments, including guitar, banjo, cittern, bouzouki, and mandolin. He plays with String Theory, Rakes of Milford, and the Bound to Have a Little Fun String Band. He played guitar with '60s folk group Canterbury Country Dance Orchestra, playing with them at the 1974 National Folk Festival at Wolf Trap in northern Virginia. The Bryans—who live on a farm with their dog, four cats, and two horses—enjoy going to their camp on Green Lake in Bangor, where they walk, kayak, and swim. ✳ Instead of retiring, **Dwight** and Judy Enright '66 **Dunning** are spending two years with the Peace Corps in Belize (P.O. Box 487, Belize City, Belize). Dwight writes: "We will be living at Punta Gorda (near the sea) in the Toledo District of southern Belize come August. We can have visitors starting in November. Come see us!"
—Class Secretaries: *Susan Davis Patterson (sdp@alumni.middlebury.edu), 67 Robinson Pkwy., Burlington, VT 05401; and Alex Taylor (alex_taylor@fortunemail.com), 325 W. 86th St., #8B, New York, NY 10024.*

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Nancy Ewald Jackson writes: "I have begun four years of phased retirement from my faculty position at the Univ. of Iowa and am now living in Portland, Ore., for about half of each year. I'm enjoying being close to my children and grandchildren and taking advantage of the opportunities that Oregon offers for hiking, kayaking, and other outdoor activities." ✳ **Clifford Buikema** has joined Minneapolis-based KKE Architects Inc. as an associate. With a master's in architecture from the Univ. of Calif., Berkeley, Cliff has 33 years of experience

WEDDINGS

Michelle Holt '00 and Dan McGarigle were married at Lake George in the Adirondacks of New York on October 16, 2004. Their attendants were Kelly Teel and Sean Evans. Missing from the photo were Middlebury friends Matthew Holt '99, Jamien Richardson '00, Lori McMahon '00, and Cate Devlin '99.

Amy Atwood '96 and Andrew Kvaal '96 were married at Mead Chapel on June 24, 2004. Celebrating at the Swift House Inn were (all '96 unless noted) Allison Baratta, coach Dave Saward, Ian Wolfe, Josh Walker, coach Missy Foote, the newlyweds, Jess Angell, Steve Kocaj, Ashley McMullin, Corie Pierce, Cullen Meade, Todd Barnes, (second row) Benny Hartley, Kevin Creeden, Dick Foote '80, Mike Kreuzer, Sarah Archabal Holmes '95, Brad Corrigan, Amanda Gordon Fletcher, Jenny Fisher, Jocelyn Nill Beni '97, Craig Beni, (third row) Molly Bschorr Ferguson, Debbie Bailey Kreuzer, Scott Holmes, Charlie Whinery, Nick Wilkoff '97, Becky Cowgill Wilkoff '97, Barbara Marlow (admissions), Hugh Marlow '57, (back row) Eric Davis, Dan Rice, Jethro Ferguson, Ian Brodie, and Stu Salyer.

Married in July 2003, Amy Apple and Rob Cohen '98 celebrated in Santa Barbara, Calif., with '98s Ian Gardiner, Steve Anderson, Emily Bracken, Myles Felsing, the newlyweds, Andrew Gross, Brett Alessi, and Than'l Badder.

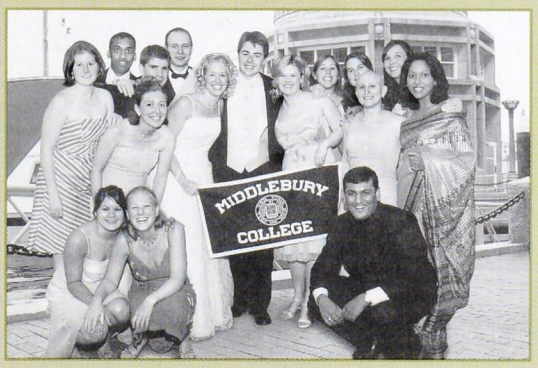
The August 28, 2004, wedding of Jennifer Gelb '97 and Scott Carbee took place at the Three Stallion Inn in Randolph, Vt. Midds celebrating with them included (front) Cameron Brown '99, Amy Berezin Ford '97, the newlyweds, Meredith Hinkley '95, Christine Jacobs '97, Brooke Capps '97, (back) Lauren Appel Curry '97, Dave Curry '96, Matt Ford '97, and Yseult Tyler '99.

Stillwater, Minn., was the setting of the marriage of Sara Russell and Tim Morse '99 on June 21, 2003. Middlebury friends celebrating the day were Sam Webb Kading '99, Eric Goldwarg '00, the newlyweds, Ben Lively '99, Ann Laukkanen Giese '99, and Chad Giese '98.

The August 31, 2003, wedding of Mandy Levine '98 and Dan Rosenfeld '99 was the occasion of a celebration on Great Diamond Island, Maine, with Peter Brooks '99, Jason Wyman '99, Erin Steimle Brooks '99, Adam Platt '99, Mary Catherine Maxwell Platt '00, Jon McMahon '99, Jason Hui '99, the newlyweds, Casey Haire '99, Jen Andrews '98, Elijah Irby '98, Kip Digges '98, Brad Gay '98, and Ted Adler '99.

The marriage of Dina Wolkoff '88 and Tal Birdsey '87 took place on November 21, 2004, at the Cowles Conservatory of the Walker Museum of Art in Minneapolis. Celebrating with them were ('87 unless noted) Kevin Levitas, John Charles, David Case, Josh Colton '87, Henry Birdsey (Tal's son), the newlyweds, Randal Roy (behind the newlyweds), Robert Aichele, Hayden Foell, Jason White '89, and Steve Paterniti.

Irene Flowers '00 and Stephen Eide were married on July 9, 2004. Celebrating with them on Deer Isle, Maine, were David Babington '00, Alexis Landry '99, Jenny Morgan '00, the newlyweds, Douglas Johnson '65, Jessica Christian '00, Mindy Atwood Flater '99, Jenn Frashure '00, (back row) Paul Nelson (political science/Brainerd Commons), and Jennifer Nelson (Brainerd Commons).



Following the August 7, 2004, marriage of Jennie Mandeville '01 and Mark Harrington '01 in Lynnfield, Mass., a reception at the Boston Harbor Hotel brought together '01s Kate Klapfish, Cat DiBenedetto, Tejas Parikh, (middle row) Ruth Howell, Lisa Engelstein, the newlyweds, Lindsay Frost, Rachel Rackow, Rifat Hasan, (back row) Arvind Ponnambalam, Tom Hale, Russell Miller, Ashley Elpern, Betsy Cramer, and Katie Pruitt.

At the Lilac Inn in Brandon, Vt., Cintra Batchoo '99 and Aleksander Wolski '00 were married on August 28, 2004. They celebrated with (front holding banner) Sergey Cherednichenko '00, Ivan Kandilov '00, (standing) JoAnn Brewer (department coordinator, Center for Teaching, Learning, and Research), David Batista '98, Alexander Dubok '98, Guy Livesay '00, the newlyweds, Mike Savikovsky '00, Amy Kandilova, Lisa Stoddart, Chris Kushlis '98, and Alexander Perjessy '98.

Carina Beyer '00 and Christian Bellmann (Univ. of Mannheim, M.A. '05) were married on March 23, 2005, at the Schwetzinger Castle in Schwetzingen, Germany. Stefanie Beyer '02 was her sister's maid of honor.

The Riding Club in Wilton, Conn., was the setting for the wedding of Jessica White '01 and Andrew Jones '01. Celebrating with them on October 16, 2004, were (all '01 unless noted) John Nesbitt '00, Jeff Phillippe, the newlyweds, Susanne Fogt, Lindsay Dormer, Kari Nygaard, Neil Bergquist, (second row) Jim Wilkerson, Josh Frank, Brandon Klein, (third row) Rob Verger, Jennie Schniedwind, Mark Valkenburgh, Laurel Cadwallader, Emily Newick, Gretchen Stuppy, Emily Howe, Danny O'Brien, and Mike Snow.

Patricia Maciel da Cunha and Rob Nathan '95 were married in Porto de Galinhas, Brazil, on December 14, 2004. A second celebration was held for American friends on New Year's Eve in Bristol, R.I.

Jeanne Restivo '99 and Peter Jacoby '01 were married in Mead Chapel on October 16, 2004. Celebrating with them at Roland's Place in New Haven, Vt., were BJ Otten '01, Ben Pratt '01, Chris Cheang '01, the newlyweds, Catherine Trechak Rosenthal '98, Jess Widay '01, Laura Yee '01, (second row) Kristin Behr '01, Brian Arcese '01, Elizabeth Fabian '99, Chris Paul '01, Andrea Kaufman '01, Kate Griffiths '01, Melanie Rausch '01, Leslie Fox Arnould '01, Jameson Tweedie '01, Ashley Twyon Bryan '99, Dan Bryan '98, Sarah Florenz '99, Whitney Dorne '99, Caroline Kellogg '98, Maureen Principe '99, Paul Rosenthal '98, (back row) Nick Reeb '01, Tim O'Keefe '01, Erin Sussman '01, Francisco Peschiera '01, Tim Boarini '01, Andrew Haley '01, Corey Wilk '01, Matt Markowski '01, Matt Arnould '01, Kelvin Roldan '01, Brent Boscarino '01, Jessica Silverman Bryan '00, and Bob Bryan '01. Emily Reinertsen '99 missed the photo.

Following their March 19, 2005, wedding, Kathy Porter and Curt Boeschenstein '92 celebrated in Cincinnati, Ohio, with '92s Frederick Lawrence, Hanes "Buddy" Heller, Mike Summersgill, Bill McDavitt, the newlyweds, Dave Weld, JJ Gilmartin, and Terence Ou. Lee Casselman Whelan '93 missed the photo.

Marybeth Carlow and Anthony LoSauro '00 were married on October 25, 2003, on Cape Cod. Celebrating with them in the town of Sandwich, Mass., were '01s Joseph Faucher, Stephen Kelly, Benjamin Fritz, Jed Raymond, Ian McGuire, Jeffrey Doran, Christopher McLaughlin, Brendan Creedon, Jason Oleet, Michael Sims, Samuel Wilson, and Tab Howard.

The January 2, 2005, marriage of Kathy Batty '01 and Dave Gurtman '01 was the occasion for a rowdy and exciting celebration at the Elm Court in Lenox, Mass. The seated newlyweds are flanked by (all '01 unless noted) Foster Storrey Osborne Jr. '73, Sandy Osborne Batty '68, Alison Bryce, Caroline Bodkin, Laura Marlow, Sara Cogan, Serena Peck, Raf Morales, (second row) Lanse Davis, Anna Cotton, Mercy Horst, Christina Cinelli, Molly Witters, Sashi Weiss, Elizabeth Black, Pat Day, (third row) Conor Darby, Jeremy Schreiner, Tyler Christie, Jared Miller, Pedro Zevallos, Matt Waxman, Adam Taylor, Sam Goedecke, Ben Jervey, (back row) David Arnold, Andrew Dutterer, Jeff Gangemi, Jake Mnookin, Joe Langerfeld, and Carlos Lopez-Hollis.

At Wentworth by the Sea Country Club in Rye, N.H., Lisa Cote '99 and Brent Boucher celebrated their May 29, 2004, wedding with (all '99 unless noted) Emily Evans Johnson, Sarah Cotton, (second row) Elizabeth Xanthopoulos, Mimi Doggett, the newlyweds, Susan Givens, Kristin Borden, (back row) Martha Alexander, Mike Hussey, Amy Ferenz, Greg Poulos '98, and Chris Clark.

The August 28, 2004, marriage of Georgia Goodhue '01 and Roo Reath in Marion, Mass., brought together Melinda Mettler '01, Julie Hand '01, Randy Wilson '01, Ellen Rodman '01, Tiffany Brinkmann '01, Josie and Elliott Abbott (daughter and son of Steve and Katy Abbott), (second row) Elsa Palanza '01, Isabella Dana '05, the newlyweds, Holcomb Johnston '01, Katy Smith Abbott (history of art), (back row) Kirk Hoffman '01, Ted Noon '01, Nat Kellogg '01, John Boynton '02, Ken Wilson (trustee), Chris Cutler '75, Andy Ridall '05, Sam Lines '04, and Steve Abbott (mathematics).

Kathryn Tignor '88 married Michael John McHale (Univ. of the South '82) on December 4, 2004, at the Episcopal Church of Bethesda-by-the Sea, Palm Beach, Fla. Other '88ers present were Christine Hrycyna and Motoko Omori Lavalle.

in facilities planning. ✳ After a 20-year career as an anesthesiologist in Portland, Ore., **Glenn Rubin** reports that he is retired and in good health. "I spend most of my time with my wife, Monét, and my two teenage boys, Noah and Adam. Other than that I fly fish and go to reggae or blues concerts." ✳ Still involved with his local Rotary Club, **North Shetter** recently arranged for housing and local tours for a Rotary group study team from India. He's still practicing dentistry, though he's now scaling back his schedule—only working two weeks on, then a week off—with a new junior dentist having recently entered the practice. North says he and wife Jan own a live-aboard converted trawler, *Two Seasons,* a 47-foot Defever POC (Performance Offshore Cruiser). They have it in Punta Gorda, Fla., which at some future time will become their winter home.

—Class Secretaries: *Barbara Ensminger Stoebenau (Barbara_stoebenau@merck.com), 6 Timber Fare, Spring House, PA 19477; and Bentley Gregg (gregg.bentley@epamail.epa.gov), 418 East St. NE, Vienna, VA 22180.*

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Attorney **Leifur Magnusson** closed his office a couple of years ago and started working from home in Plainfield, N.J.: "I mostly just had two clients. I represent two sleepy steamship companies—one Indian, one American—in their dealings with the Indian and U.S. governments. So that really was not a lot of work. Plus, I've been winding up my guardianship of a gentleman in the Bronx, who died a few years ago. I spend most of my time just keeping our household going, plus family obligations, i.e., my mother in Arlington County, Va. We moved to Andover, Mass., in '03 for Charlotte's (Sibley '68) work at a biotech in Cambridge. Awful commute—only 23 miles, but it took forever. In April, she accepted a position with a pharmaceutical company down here on the Main Line to the west of Philadelphia. It's really very peaceful out here, horse farms all around. And her commute is eight miles. She's head of market research and competitive intelligence, a VP. In the meantime I've completed the guardianship, so I'm spending every day on the house and household and life in general and family, etc., ad infinitum." His closing comment: "That is fine, just fine." Leif and Charlotte enjoyed a recent visit by **Richard Gaines** and his wife, from Ramsey, N.J. ✳ **Carol Gale Barnes** is the new principal of Beeman Elementary School in New Haven, Vt. In her 36 years at Vergennes Union Elementary School, Carol has taught grades one through six, and has been an administrator for the last three years. This past year she filled in as interim principal of VUES. ✳ Along with four other members of Clark Hill PLC, **Fred Batten** has been named to the 2005 Chambers USA Ranking of America's Leading Business Lawyers. Fred is a member of the firm's Detroit office. ✳ **Peter Reynolds** has followed his wife to the Kettle Moraine country of Wisconsin where she continues her work as a nurse practitioner in a women's clinic. This is a move closer to her family. Peter finds work helping make schools better and helping them do a more effective job of teaching geography. Their kids are onto their own lives. Sarah, a Brandeis graduate and Peace Corps returnee, does field work with Latino farm workers for the Southern Poverty Law Center. Anna Lisa graduated from Rutgers in May and is on the road, traveling where she can paint houses. Tim recently returned from a year in Sweden, finding out how he stacks up against Scandinavian skiers. He is now a member of the class of '09 at a small, coed, liberal arts school nestled in the Green Mountains of Vermont. By virtue of his year off, Tim and Peter will share reunion years forever. After years of working in schools, Peter is glad to have finally "found Waldo."

—Class Secretaries: *Anne Harris Onion (onions@metrocast.net), P.O. Box 207, Gilmanton, NH 03237; and Peter Reynolds (preyn@wcvt.com), P.O. Box 61, Waldo, WI 53093.*

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Hope all you reunion attendees received your class photo this summer, along with our comments on how wonderful it was seeing everyone at reunion. Wasn't it a great weekend? For those of you who missed it, please plan now to come back in 2010 and we'll pick right up where we left off. Please continue to send in your news, so we can keep the rest of the class informed. We all have something interesting to say: successes, sports, skiing, kids, grandkids, visits with classmates, etc. We are grateful to **Andy Wentink** for serving as class secretary for many years and we welcome **Kathy Mead** of Santa Barbara as co-secretary for the coming term. Her address appears below. ✳ **Mike Jones** was sorry that he couldn't make reunion. When he wrote last May, with 165 inches of snow at mid-mountain, he estimated that skiing would continue at Snowbird until at least Memorial Day, or maybe the Fourth. "Skiers in our class can always look me up at the Bird during the season, although I travel to masters races most weekends in January and a few other weekends." ✳ When the Claremont (N.H.) Chamber of Commerce recently recognized **Mike Satzow** as its 2005 citizen of the year, one of the townspeople who nominated him was Charles Puksta '49. Charlie pointed out that he had known Mike since 1948 and "he's never been recognized for all the things he should be recognized for in promoting Claremont. He has been an outstanding citizen." (*Ed. note: We regret to report that Charles Puksta passed away on August 28.*) Mike is president of the North Country Smokehouse, a meat smoking company that sells to restaurants and hotels across the country. Apparently it's a unique company, because it does $6 million a year without a salesman. ✳ **Joanne Schnautz** reports that her niece, Elise Tarbi, enjoyed her freshman year at Middlebury, where "she played varsity soccer and studied hard. Probably crossing paths with many '70 offspring? Now I have to work on my young lacrosse-playing nephews in Colorado!"

—Class Secretaries: *Dr. David Desrochers (daveandelsa@earthlink.net), 599 Blackbeards View, Bath, NC 27808; and Kate Mead (markat@sbceo.org), 2734 Williams Way, Santa Barbara, CA 93105.*

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REUNION CLASS

This past spring, **Robert Salisbury** gave a talk at the H. Lee White Marine Museum in Oswego, N.Y. A prof. at the State Univ. College at Oswego, Robert spoke on Pontiac, Ottawa Chieftain: The 1766 Conclusion, in Oswego, of Pontiac's Rebellion. His lecture was given in conjunction with the state of New York's observance of the 250th anniversary of the French and Indian War. ✳ In Vermont, **J. Bruce Foust** has been promoted to manager of private banking at the Chittenden Bank.

—Class Secretary: *Dr. Susan R. Thornton (thornton@hancock.net), 4-1/2 Minden Ave., Binghamton, NY 13905.*

Newsmakers

Her report may prove to be the iconic broadcasting moment of Hurricane Katrina. "We've been a part of lots of storytelling in our lives, and I don't know that I've ever heard a better piece of work than that. And I suspect that will stay with me and you for a long time to come," CNN *NewsNight* anchor Aaron Brown said of the work of his colleague, correspondent **JEANNE MESERVE '74**. It was Meserve's devastating telephone report of New Orleans descending into chaos in the aftermath of Katrina that, for many, brought to light the horrific human suffering that was unfolding in the Crescent City. As Meserve wept, the nation came to understand the depth of the tragedy.

Who knew that majoring in Japanese could lead to a gig in professional baseball? After spending three years working in the foreign affairs office in Wakayama, Japan, **BLAIR SLY '01** returned stateside this summer to take a job as the director of operations for the Japan Samurai Bears, an independent minor league baseball team competing in Arizona and California. Composed solely of Japanese players, the Japan Samurai Bears is one of eight teams in the fledgling Golden Baseball League.

JEFF LINDSAY's ('75) latest best seller, *Dearly Devoted Dexter,* picks up where his last book left off (see review of *Darkly Dreaming Dexter,* Winter 2005), with Dexter Morgan, a serial killer with a conscience, still working for the Miami-Dade Police Department. While working on bringing Dexter to life on the big screen, Lindsay has a contract with Doubleday for more novels about his twisted hero.

After collaborating with many other editors and writers during her celebrated career, cookbook author and editor **MOLLY STEVENS '81** decided to strike out on her own last year with a solo effort: *All About Braising: The Art of Uncomplicated Cooking.* This summer, Stevens' title took home the prestigious James Beard award for a single-subject cookbook.

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Congratulations are in order for **Tom McGrath,** whose work as an architect and preservationist have earned him several significant recent honors. In May, Tom was inducted into the American Institute of Architects' College of Fellows, the organization's highest membership honor. This recognition comes on the heels of his selection last fall as a Fellow of the Association for Preservation Technology. APT honored him as a renowned leader in preservation technology education and training whose "personal philosophies of inclusion, diversity, and sustainability are matched with his passion for historic preservation and his dedication to respecting the craft of preservation." Tom's career has included a focus on preservation trades and tradesmen, as well as an emphasis on maritime preservation. The September/October '04 issue of *Traditional Building* put Tom on its cover, and named him one of 15 "Titans of Tradition" whose personal efforts on behalf of architectural preservation have contributed to our culture. In his work as superintendent of the National Park Service's Historic Preservation Training Center in Frederick, Md., Tom's mission is to preserve and maintain historic structures through preservation education and skills/crafts development. Tom and wife Kimberly live in a historic home (surprise!) on the Severn River in Severna Park, with sons Cutty (5) and Connor (3). Now in his second year as a volunteer soccer coach, Tom is "trying to deal with turning 55 and becoming the best first coach a kid can have. Both are a challenge." He adds, "When I think raising two young boys in my 50s is difficult, we visit classmate **Paul Johnston** and his wife, Betsy, in Bethesda and hang with their three young kids!" ✷ "Diamond" **Jim Gamble** wrote recently from Fayetteville, Ark., to let us know about his marriage on June 4 to Laura Jean Soles (Oklahoma City Univ. '92). Some of us met Laura when she accompanied Jim to our class reunion in '97. Jim writes: "We share interests in sports, show biz, rabbits, horses, and education—Laura is Fayetteville Center Manager of Kaplan Test Prep, a subsidiary of the Washington Post Corp., and I continue to serve as an adjunct instructor at Northwest Arkansas Community College." Jim and Laura met in a Univ. of Ark. lit class 13 years ago and share their Fayetteville home with 13 rabbits and two dogs! Jim would love to hear from classmates at jim_gamble@sbcglobal.net or 1307 N. Maxwell Dr., Fayetteville, AR 72703. ✷ After five years with Citigroup Audit and Risk Review in New York, **Cynthia Bear** transferred to Tokyo this past spring as director and corporate governance coordinator in the legal division of Citibank N.A. She welcomes all visitors from the Class of 1972. Contact her at cynthia.j.bear@citigroup.com. ✷ As part of his new business, A Sound Legacy, **Lincoln Clapp** records people talking about their lives, saving their memories on compact discs. Working in his home studio in Belfast, Maine, Lincoln also remains active in the music business, recording and mixing projects for the Telarc record label, including work on blues albums. ✷ **William Everett**, former chief financial officer of Steleus Group Inc., has been named senior VP and chief financial officer of Tekelec, developer of telecommunications products. ✷ **Ingrid Stanlis** loves the people aspect of her job, as managing partner of the upstate New York business unit of KPMG LLP, an audit, tax and risk-advisory firm. Becoming an accountant in 1979, she's a 28-year veteran of NYC-based KPMG, where she was elected to the firm's partnership in 1993. Moving in 1997 from Vermont to KPMG's Rochester office, she served as an audit partner for seven years before being promoted to managing partner last spring. She oversees 74 staffers and all accounting and tax services provided to clients by the KPMG offices in Buffalo, Rochester, and Syracuse. Her community service includes serving as chair of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra Inc. ✷ As this column of class notes was coming together, we received sad news of the loss of another classmate. **Joe McDonough** died June 28 in Denville, N.J., where he grew up and had returned in 1999. Joe was an accomplished attorney and had served as a trustee of the Delbarton School. Our sympathies go out to Joe's friends and family, especially his three children, Catherine, James, and Grace, all of Chatham, N.J. A memorial appears elsewhere in this issue. ✷ Best fall wishes to you all from Michigan correspondent **Jennifer Hamlin Church.** Special thanks for the notes many of you sent following my husband's death.

—Class Secretaries: *Jennifer Hamlin Church (jhchurch@sienahts.edu), 11151 Summerfield Rd., Petersburg, MI 49270; and Judy Wingham (jwingham @bosleyrealestate.com), 417 Guildwood Pkwy., West Hill, Ontario M1E 1R3, Canada.*

Tom McGrath '72 was recently inducted into the American Institute of Architects' College of Fellows.

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Jhon Akers recently transferred responsibilities at Wofford College: "I will be working in the innovative Success Initiative Learning Community, a student-led and project-driven scholarship program for some of Wofford's most creative students. Also, I recently performed my program on Carl Sandburg and Andres Segovia at the Sandburg Days Festival in Galesburg, Ill. In April this year my book on Sandburg's guitar-inspired writings was published. It's entitled *A Small Friend* and is available through Honoribus Press." ✷ **Wendy Mogel** is a clinical psychologist, school consultant, and writer (*The Blessing of a Skinned Knee*) living in Los Angeles with her husband, writer Michael Tolkin '74. She writes: "I travel the country speaking to parents about strategies for raising self-reliant, optimistic children and resisting cultural pressure to over-indulge, overschedule, and overprotect them. I speak to administrators and teachers about the 'dark side of devotion,' including the impact of parental anxiety and entitlement on teacher morale. I'm working on a new book, *The Blessing of a B–*, about the effect of excessive academic and social pressure on students' worldview, mood, and spirit. Sounds cheery, no? If these topics are of interest to you, please stop by my Web site: wendymogel.com and say hello. **Steve Miller**, godfather to our two daughters, visited Los Angeles to attend our younger daughter's bat mitzvah last fall. This fall, older daughter Susanna begins her freshman year at Haverford College. Michael and I recently had lunch with new Midd President Ron Liebowitz. What a dynamo! We had a great conversation and look forward to spending more time with him." ✷ **Lynda Hunter Wolff** and husband Richard report that their son is at Harvard and that they have two children in high school. ✷ It was 14 years ago that **Nancy Howe** was accepted in her first Birds in Art exhibition; this year she was named the 2005 master wildlife artist in that exhibition at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum in Wausau, Wis. The museum director commented that "Nancy's individual style and her ability to masterfully capture bird life are what set her apart from the rest this year." ✷ **Gus Meyer** writes: "Pat and I just celebrated our 25th anniversary, with all of our married life spent entrenched in the same house in Randolph, Vt. Daughter Lindsay just received her MAT degree from Hobart and William Smith Colleges. Marissa has completed her sophomore year at Colby, where she is majoring in psychology, despite her father's best efforts to convince her not to follow in his footsteps. I continue my psychology practice, mostly working with schools in central Vermont. After a somewhat half-hearted effort to find a publisher, I have chosen the publish-on-demand route with Authorhouse for my therapeutic fantasy novel, *The Fates Within,* which deals allegorically with a woman confronting her trauma as a victim of child sexual abuse." ✷ **Gary Baumers** sends news: "After 18 months as employee benefits executive of JPMorganChase & Co following JPMC's merger with BankOne and nine years of living in Chappaqua, N.Y., Gillian (my wife of 26 years) and I are returning to Asia and moving to Hong Kong for the next two and a half years, after which we plan to retire to NYC and Costa Rica. We welcome e-mail from any '73 MiddKid planning a trip to Hong Kong who may want to reconnect with a classmate while there."

—Class Secretary: *Deborah Schneider Greenhut (writerDSG@comcast.net), 35 Patton Dr., East Brunswick, NJ 08816.*

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Secretary Dennis reports: **Barry King** was walking with friends at the Robert Frost Trail in Ripton on the Saturday of graduation weekend in May. She reports the area was much more crowded than usual and everyone seemed to be parents or grandparents of graduates, out for a walk while their children and grandchildren slept off the previous night's parties. Then ahead Barry spotted someone younger and said to her friends, "Here's a poor grad who has been dragged out here for a walk when all her friends are still in bed." And Barry's next words were, "And I think I know her father!" Sure enough, it turned out to be **Dave Mozes** and his daughter, Suzanne, who was graduating from Middlebury that weekend. By the way, the hike in Ripton turned out to be Suzanne's idea, so she wasn't there under duress after all. ✷ **Randal Spencer** is president and CEO of Concordia Fibers, makers of advanced composites for aerospace applications, yarn for the Prince Vortex tennis racket, and a new range of textiles that are bioabsorbable for medical uses. Randal and wife **Carol Boghossian Spencer** live in Providence, R.I. ✷ In Florida, **Fred Zinober** has joined the Tampa office of litigation firm Zuckerman Spaeder LLP. ✷ **Jeff Schutz** and Charlotte Caldwell celebrated their March marriage with a May gathering in Charleston, S.C. **Tucker Swan**, **Jeff Medoff**, **Mark Patinkin**, **Peter White**, and **Danny Flanagan** all flew in to raise a glass. The toasts were epic.

—Class Secretaries: *Greg Dennis (gregdennis@*

adelphia.net), 86 May Apple Ln., Middlebury, VT 05753; and Barry Schultz King (kinglet@together.net), P.O. Box 77, Ripton, VT 05766.

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Lawrence Menendez is prof. of orthopaedic surgery at the Univ. of Southern Calif. and chief of orthopaedic oncology. He continues to surf as time permits. ✳ **Michael Mulligan**, head of school at the Thacher School in Ojai, Calif., has been selected as one of five new inductees to the Governor Dummer Academy Athletic Hall of Fame. Mike also recently became board chair of the Private Schools of America. ✳ "Time has flown by much too quickly," writes **Linda Lindsey Meyers**. "I cannot believe it has been 30 years since graduation. Regretfully, I will not be able to share in our reunion festivities since I will be celebrating daughter Lindsey's graduation from high school. Lindsey will be a freshman at Brown Univ. this fall and our eldest son, Matthew, will be a senior at Yale. Our 'surprise,' Eric, will be a fifth grader. Believe it or not, my boys are ice hockey players. My youngest keeps us busy traveling the U.S. and Canada on a AAA '94 peewee team. I keep myself extremely busy being a wife, mother, and full-time volunteer. My husband of 25 years, Steve, and I enjoy hiking and cross-country skiing. Our dream is to move to our 20 acres in Etna, N.H. I love visiting Middlebury and cherish my memories." ✳ With this column, Roger and Paige bid a fond farewell as your class secretaries. If you like keeping in touch with classmates and would like to be included in the *Middlebury Magazine* newsgathering team, send a message to middmag@middlebury.edu right away.

—Class Secretaries: *Roger King (roger.king@softwarespectrum.com), 4128 Caruth Blvd., Dallas, TX 75225; and Paige O'Connell McGuire (paigellen@aol.com), 1134 Waterloo Rd., Berwyn, PA 19312.*

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Secretary Mead reports: **Jill Robinson Haizlip**'s April 2005 50th birthday drew a cadre of classmates to San Francisco to celebrate with a bay cruise and dancing at Bimbo's 365 Club. Husband Eli '76 and Haizlip children Ian, Sarah, and Ella '08 were there. Well, actually Ella was there via cell phone from Middlebury, where she was a freshman. The usual suspects included **Rich Hodges**, **Chris** and **Gail Robinson Mead**, **Chandler Lee**, **Roz Walrath**, **Halsted Wheeler**, **Kenny Goldman**, **Andréa Mahee**, and Randy Eppler '75 and wife Jean Scandlyn '75. **Jack Henderson**, of Concord, Mass., put in an appearance in San Francisco at the annual American Water Works Association convention, but missed the boat, literally as well as figuratively. ✳ **Joel Underwood** has been appointed senior VP and investment officer in the investment and trust services division of Ledyard National Bank. He had been senior VP and portfolio manager for Bank of American in Hanover. ✳ **Pete Gay** (currently a sleep specialist on staff at the Mayo clinic in Rochester, Minn.) writes: "The Sleep Meeting in Denver brought many diversions. Wendy and I arrived 6/18 to a ride with my sister to Boulder where we met up with Kenny Goldman. We supped and drank at the Lazy Dog Café and then did the Pearl St Mall ex-CSU wannabe street entertainers. Kenny seems to be thriving and can feed you, do your laundry, and send you around the local mini-golf and go-cart track, and still do more before midnight than this man's army. Joanie and **Rick Ridder** seem to be equally blissful and unscathed by the current political situation, enough to not care or not remind me of bad voting choices I might have made in the past. Still the same old Rick. We had a great dinner at Mizuna and then Wendy and I went to the sleep meeting dance and walked back to our haunted Brown Palace Hotel. Wendy said she knows who the ghost is. After my talk, our study sponsor took us to eat and then to see a troop from Cirque du Soleil. Fortunately I didn't have to get picked from the audience and make a typical spectacle of myself like my old friend the Elephant man." For Peter and loved ones, there has been even more cause for exuberance. To celebrate Dr. Gay's clean CT scan after his six months of chemotherapy for colon cancer (Gone! Yahoo!), Andréa, Halsted Wheeler, **Rick Maeder**, Roz Walrath, and Chris Mead snuck off to Rochester to celebrate life and all of us still being in it. **Andréa Mahee** has been living in the Big Apple for almost two and a half years, working for the nonprofit Starlight Children's Foundation. She heads up volunteer resources for the tri-state area. She gets to hang out with best friend Roz Walrath frequently and occasionally enjoys a D.C. visit to see Rick Maeder and his family. She was looking forward to recreationally canoeing, kayaking, and/or sailing the NYC waterways this summer. BTW, she'll also be co-chairing the social committee for the 30th reunion. Send her your ideas, suggestions, or just give her a shout out: ruach88@hotmail.com.

—Class Secretaries: *Gary Holmes (gholmes@rlmnet.com), 29 Patricia Ln., Darien, CT 06820; Chris Mead (cmead@cwclaw.com), 146 Camino Sobrante, Orinda, CA 94563; and Stephanie Shapiro (stephanie.shapiro@baltsun.com), 604 Gladstone Ave., Baltimore, MD 21210.*

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We regret to report that **Pam Johnson** lost her three-year battle with acute myelogenous leukemia on July 29, 2005. Shortly after our graduation, Pam joined the College staff as a computer programmer in the data processing department. Through her efforts and innovation, the College developed and supported effective applications utilizing a central constituent database. She continued her career for 25 years, until leukemia forced her to take a medical leave. A service was held in Mead Chapel on August 6, with Laurel Macauley Jordan '79 officiating and **Susan Mason** playing the organ and the recorder. The condolences of the class are extended to her husband, Christopher Potter, and all of her family.

—Class Secretaries: *Bob Lindberg (rcl@linrip.com), 6 Jefferson Dr., East Granby, CT 06026; and Ed Young (ecyoung2001@yahoo.com), 15602 N. 13th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85023.*

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"In Search of Something Lost," an essay by **Edward Kanze**, won the 2004 John Burroughs Award of Recognition for an outstanding published natural history essay. The essay appeared in the 2004 May/June issue of *Adirondack Life*. The award was presented on April 4 at the American Museum of Natural History. ✳ Jessica Moore and **Rick Lansdale** (M.A. English '82) were married July 9, surrounded by family and friends—including many from Middlebury and Bread Loaf. Rick teaches English and coaches lacrosse at the Taft School. Jessica is an architect working in NYC. Following a honeymoon trip to Italy, Rick and Jessica are living in their home on West End Avenue. During Rick's sabbatical year, they're enjoying travel and Rick is taking courses at Columbia. ✳ **Tom Stacey** and wife Cheryl are enjoying life in Colorado. As a director with RMS Solutions, Tom travels around the country assisting hospitals with information management. Son Eric is a junior at Avon Old Farms. As always, Tom continues to try to lower his golf handicap. (He's too humble to want it in print, but it's already amazing!) He welcomes friends to contact him in Lafayette, Colo., at tom_stacey@comcast.net. Tom has enjoyed seeing Keith Block '76, whose law firm Block, Markus, and Williams is in Denver. ✳ **Dave Jaffray** reports that "in June, both families Cater and Jaffray graduated their first-born from high school." Dave's son, Ben, is going to Montana State at Bozeman ("skiing"). **Mark Cater**'s daughter, Kelsey, is heading to the Univ. of Minnesota, Duluth. Dave was having fun this summer "doing a contract IT consulting gig for a month or so." ✳ **Bill Harris** has joined WebSideStory's board of directors. He also serves on the boards of Macromedia and Earthlink and is currently chairman and principal shareholder of four early-stage technology companies (PassMark Security, XTec, Isochron and MyVest). ✳ **Paul Aaronson** has been named chief executive officer of PlusFunds Group Inc. He was previously the executive managing director of Standard & Poor's. ✳ We were so sorry to learn of the recent death of our **Anne Reding**. We extend the condolences of the class to her entire family. A memorial appeared in the summer issue. Her family wrote to let us know that Annie died on May 14, "after a five-and-one-half-year battle with ovarian cancer, which she fought with grace, dignity, and vigorous determination. Survivors include her partner of 13 years, Mark Coleman; her mother, Lorna; and her loving brothers Andrew '75, Paul (and his wife, Rosa), and Phil '82 (and his wife, Nancy). While Annie had no children of her own, she adored children and was a loving and revered aunt to Steve, Laurianne, Emily, Luke and Katie. Annie lived the last years of her life in keeping with the message in one of her favorite quotations from Fra Giovanni: "The gloom of the world is but a shadow; beyond it, yet within our reach, lies joy. Take joy."

—Class Secretaries: *David Jaffray (djaffray@mchsi.com), 18427 Heathcote Ln., Deephaven, MN 55391; Phyllis Wendell Mackey (phylmackey@hotmail.com), 120 Glade Path, Hampton, NH 03842; and Anne Rowell Noble (annenoblemail@aol.com), 1106 Morningside Ln., Alexandria, VA 22308.*

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Mary MacKenzie Corke (m. to Randy Corke '80) was among the many '79ers to attend the '80 reunion this spring. While there, she saw **Kristin Harris** whose husband, Ian Douglas '80, gave a wonderful sermon at Sunday reunion services. In April, Mary and family and **Jon Prime** all attended a show (William Finn's *Falsettos*, a musical about life, love, sex, and other unscheduled events) at Middlebury in which Mary's daughter, Ally '08, played Trina. While all were dining at Mister Up's, they ran into our fabulous past secretary, **Maggie Paine**. Jon is working at his store in Lake Placid; he declares that Vermont must hate him since he seems to get injured on every ski trip to the Green Mountains. Mary has taken up ice hockey and she believes she has played against fellow mom-on-ice **Kim Ulrich Whelan**. She heartily recommends the sport to anyone over 40: "You get to wear lots of padding, so it really is a safe sport." Mary also found out from her daughter's classmates that Murray Dry is still teaching at Middlebury and that his classes are still very hard. "In this changing

This isn't about the bike, either: Kevin Mahaney '85 and his Tour de France Challenge

MIDD ALUM AND CANCER SURVIVOR, **KEVIN MAHANEY '85**, successfully rode all 2,241 miles of the 2005 Tour de France route and raised over $65,000 for the Tyler Hamilton Foundation (THF) and the Lance Armstrong Foundation (LAF). As organizers of the Tour de France Challenge 2005 (TDFC), Destination Cycling ensured that the 43-year-old Mahaney had the necessary support to complete the most grueling bike race in the world.

Watching the 2002 Tour de France with his three sons, Kevin was inspired by both Hamilton and Armstrong. Having a close friend with multiple sclerosis and overcoming a personal battle with cancer himself in 1993, Kevin Mahaney chose THF (multiple sclerosis) and LAF (cancer survivorship) as the TDFC beneficiaries. "Tyler and Lance inspired me and, like them, I was not complacent with the status quo. I dreamed of something impossible that hopefully will encourage others to do the same."

Kevin Mahaney was no stranger to athletic challenge. In 1992, he won an Olympic Silver Medal in sailing and the prestigious title of Rolex Yachtsman of the Year. In 1995, he founded and skippered the America's Cup defense team, Young America. In 2002, Kevin set a three-year goal to get into cycling shape. In 2005, Kevin selected Destination Cycling to transform his dream into a reality with travel, team, and technical support.

"Most of the tour companies offer one set program," said Joe Tonon, Destination Cycling's cofounder. "What we do is model the pro teams." Tonon handpicked Kevin's team (eight riders, one coach, one mechanic, three trainers, and one doctor) with a single objective—to support Kevin all the way to Paris.

Kevin's team successfully completed all 21 stages and 2,241 miles of the route, riding the day before the professional peloton. After his epic endeavor, Kevin offered these words on his arrival in Paris, "I had arrived in Paris a month ago and attempted an hour ride. I was scared of the traffic, the cobblestones rattling through my body. I was eight pounds heavier, and concerned but not respectful of the Tour. As I got off my bike for the final time, I realized nothing bothered me. It was my world, cobblestones, rain, wind, scorching heat, huge mountains—no difference to me, I'm on my bike. There is a sense of contentment, not accomplishment. You cannot beat the Tour; you can only try to survive it. Lance Armstrong, 33, rode 3,607 km in 85 hours. I am 43, rode 3,607 km in 119 hours. One thing I know for sure, in the 2005 Tour de France, I led Lance for 23 straight days to Paris."

For more, see page 74.

world, this is somehow very reassuring to me!" ✷ **Greg Birsky** also had a great time being the spouse at Karen Jackson Birsky's 25th: "Of course I played golf with a bunch of the old jocks. I got to hang out with my fellow basketball teammates, **Kevin Kelleher** and **Peter Murray**. I also got to see my old pitching mate from the baseball team, **Rob Race** '78. The weather was great and the campus is resort quality. The only thing that was tough was sleeping in the dormitory beds." ✷ **Dan Jacobs** writes from Washington, D.C.: "Last year, I joined the legal adviser's office at the State Department, where I oversee the department's tort cases around the world. It's been an interesting and challenging change from my previous work. I also continue to teach as an adjunct prof. at George Washington Univ." ✷ **Nancy Grant** was reminded of her Midd past when she skied Tuckerman's last April: "It brought me back to the first and only other time I have skied it, which was during exam week of my freshman year with my roommate, **Anne Hedberg**, and two juniors named Cas and Cowboy! This year, there were so many more people (in 1976, we went on a weekday), much longer runs to ski, a dark blue sky, and enough snow to ski all the way down to the parking lot. Hiking and skiing Tuckerman's is a bit of a physical challenge and I was surprised to see so many college-aged kids out there. Then I reminded myself (nostalgically) about how spontaneous, disorganized, and irresponsible we could be back then and how that attitude brought us some great opportunities and adventures. I'm still working at Bowdoin. If anyone's visiting here with their kids, look me up." ✷ Hope your summer was relaxing, full, and fun. Please write with news we can share!

—Class Secretaries: *Maura Flynn (maura_flynn@msn.com), 36 Poplar St., Douglaston, NY 11363; and Beth Mooney Longcope (longcopes@earthlink.net), 187 Falmouth Rd., Falmouth, ME 04105.*

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Melisa Stern reports that she and daughter Natalie (3) "had a fabulous time at our reunion. Great to see so many classmates and so many young children! We moved to Dover, Mass., two years ago. When not 'managing' Natalie's social life, I'm busy as an interior decorator on my own and for a high-end custom builder in Wellesley." ✷ **Juliet Ewing** and Henry Pitney '81 have moved back to the States! They're living in D.C. now. ✷ Attorney **Ken Sowles** was profiled by Leslie Wright '84 in the *Burlington Free Press* (March 20, 2005). As a sports agent, Ken has represented sailboarders, auto racers, mountain bikers, triathletes, skateboarders, and golfers, but skiing and snowboarding have been his primary niche. ✷ **Bob Caragher** became chief financial officer at Keck Graduate Institute at the Claremont Colleges in July.

—Class Secretaries: *Anne Cowherd Kallaher (acowherd@cng-inc.com), P.O. Box 1751, Darien, CT 06820; and Susanne Rohardt Strater (scstrater@videotron.ca), 21 Gables Ct., Beaconsfield QC H9W 5H3 Canada.*

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REUNION CLASS

Jim Baker made the cover of *Business People Vermont* in June. The inside story, "Beyond the Vinyl Frontier," gave Jim a chance to pay tribute to his late grandfather, James Baker, who founded the family company in 1925. ✷ For news of **Heather Vuillet Lende** and her new book, *If You Lived Here, I'd Know Your Name,* see the book review elsewhere in this issue.

—Class Secretaries: *Sue Dutcher Wagley (suewagley@earthlink.net), 4060 Hanover Ave., Dallas, TX 75225.*

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Betsy Currier Beacom and **Betsy Sweeney Backes** spent a weekend together in Middlebury in March, "just to hang out together and wax nostalgic. We had a blast! We stayed at the Chipman Inn and tromped around campus during a heavy late-winter snowstorm, marveling at the beauty of the place. We thrilled to the delights of the Mister Up's salad bar—which hasn't changed much since 1982!—and mourned yet again the loss of the Rosebud. Betsy lives in Chicago, where she and husband Dave Backes are the proud parents of two beautiful little girls, Katie and Lauren. Betsy is also a VP at Banc of America Leasing; she was training to compete in the Chicago Marathon this fall. I live in North Haven, Conn., with husband Matthew and children Kate, Hannah, and Will. I have been teaching English part time at Yale Univ., and I am an assistant director of public affairs at Southern Conn. State Univ. in New Haven. ✷ When the State Games of America were held in Colorado Springs this summer, **Michael Kountze** won the 50, 100, and 200 meters in his age group! "Since this was the first time they used electronic time, the times will be meet records. It was hot and the altitude got to me a bit, but I had a great time. See ya next year."

—Class Secretaries: *Wendy Behringer Nelson (gomomgo@verizon.net), 2071 St. Andrews Dr., Berwyn, PA 19312; and Caleb Rick (crick@northcommon.com), P.O. Box 189, Chelsea, VT 05038.*

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After several years of enlivening the Spanish program at Vermont Academy, **Bruce Chase** has joined the faculty at the Compass School in Westminster, Vt. He has also coached soccer and tennis, directed and performed in theater, and led school trips to Spain and Guatemala. With an MBA from Crummer Graduate School, Bruce previously spent several years in the business world, including four years in Australia as project manager for Hewlett Packard and Johnson & Johnson. ✷ **Victoria Seiden Gonin** and her family recently relocated to Concord, Mass., from Mountan Lakes, N.J. She looks forward to reconnecting with fellow Midds in the Boston area. ✷ **Dan Elish** informs us that

he has published his "first novel for real live grown-ups—as opposed to my others for kids." *Nine Wives* (St. Martins, August 2005), according to Dan, "tells the humorous (I hope) tale of Henry Mann, a fantasy-ridden bachelor in New York, looking for the perfect wife. So far it's gotten good reviews in the *Boston Globe*, *Jane Magazine*, *Shape*, and others." Still living in NYC, Dan and wife Andrea have a daughter, Cassie (2). Dan encourages everyone to rush out and buy his book, because "nursery schools here are really expensive—I need those royalties!"

—Class Secretaries: *Ruth Kennedy (kennedyr2@aetna.com), 195 Church St., Newton, MA 02458; and Siobhan Leahy Ulrich (sulrich@westminster-school.org), Westminster School, 995 Hopmeadow St., Simsbury, CT 06070.*

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Correction: In our last issue, one of your class secretaries (the man one) failed to edit some tomfoolery from his submission. Thus were our gentle readers told that **Anne Chapman** had not returned our calls for class news, when—in fact—Anne had been hard at work composing a beautiful note that makes up a large chunk of our column. Sorry Anne, you deserve better from your elected officials. Thus we open with Annie's mother lode of wonderful doings in our class and others, in her own words: "I have been very fortunate to have found a way to pursue both of my greatest passions, art and skiing, and make a living doing both in such a beautiful place. I represent European fine prints at Galerie Maximillian in Aspen, Colo., and still teach skiing part time on Aspen Mountain. My husband, Brent Gardner-Smith, is the executive director of Aspen Public Radio, fighting the good fight for NPR and responsible local journalism and enjoys covering all the interesting people and events that come to Aspen. Stepson Austin (19) will be a sophomore at Boston College this fall. When we're not working we love to hike, bike, and raft the rivers of Colorado and Utah. I have become a petroglyph hound, searching them out on side-hikes from the river. I continue to be grateful for all the Middlebury connections that have shaped my life. Because of the draw of skiing and the mountains, there are lots of Midd grads that live here in the Aspen area. One of my closest friends, Paulina Vander Noorda '81, and husband Dick Jackson own Aspen Paragliding and Expeditions. Anyone for jumping off Aspen Mountain? Another friend, **Jennifer Craig**, from our freshman hall in Battell, runs a successful organic greens business in Woody Creek, called Ute City Greens. Paulina, Jennifer, and I went on an amazing biking trip in Paulina's homeland of Holland last spring. The owner of the gallery I work for, Albert Sanford '82, and I are constantly meeting people in the gallery or on the mountain that went to Midd or have kids that want to go! I love sharing all the positive experiences that I had with them. Had a great time snowboarding with **Buck Dominick** and son Josh last winter, and love seeing Andy '85 and **Wendy Tanner Bermingham** when they come up to visit his mom. Have also had a wonderful time hiking and skiing with Jay and **Elizabeth Rodriguez Chandler** and daughters Isabelle and Grace, who all enjoy vacationing here. Yes, I took Lissie into Highlands Bowl and she loved it!" ✳ A group of Middlebury lacrosse fans traveled from around the country to watch the Panthers play in the NCAA Division III championships in the Philadelphia area over the Memorial Day weekend. Taking in Division I, II, and III games during the long weekend were Buck Dominick (accompanied by his two sons and brother-in-law), **Larry Goldstein** (accompanied by his three sons), **Pete Tichansky**, **Marty Lanigan** (accompanied by his son), and Alex Barnes '85 (accompanied by his son and daughter). Hugh Marlow '57 also attended the tournament, but missed hooking up with the group. He'll get another chance next year as the '84s had so much fun that some have already purchased tickets for the 2006 tournament. Go Midd Lax! ✳ **Aaron** and **Abby Wilson Julien** report "all kinds of doings at the Julien household." Aaron is leaving his law firm and the family is pulling up stakes in Portland, Maine, to join Abby's family newspaper business, Newspapers of New England, Inc., based in Concord, N.H. They expect to live in western Massachusetts and promise to update us on these developments soon. ✳ Meeting at their Hotchkiss 25th reunion recently were **David Dove**, **Henry LaBalme**, Wendy Tanner Bermingham, Andy Bermingham '85, **Brenda Grassey**, and **Bill Boscow**. "Everyone agreed that while many of their Hotchkiss classmates did look a little different, none of the Middlebury alumni had really changed!" ✳ Deputy Assistant to the President for Homeland Security **Kenneth Rapuano** is charged with bolstering this country's ability to prevent and respond to an attack carrying the "highest-consequence threats": nuclear, chemical, or biological weapons. As the *National Journal* phrased it in its June 18, 2005, edition, his "career has been about contemplating the unthinkable."

Kenneth Rapuano '84 was recently named deputy assistant to the president for homeland security.

—Class Secretaries: *Andrew Zehner (andrew.zehner@pfizer.com), 93 Livingston St., New Haven, CT 06511; and Kimberly Schlegel Boscow (ksboscow@comcast.net), 24 Wheeler St. South, St. Paul, MN 55105.*

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Retiring secretary Dale Sailer reports: **Tenley Adams Aldredge** is a Democrat living blissfully as an assistant county attorney in Austin, Texas. No, that's not an entry from Ripley's Believe It or Not. This, and other fun facts, were uncovered regarding over 100 of our classmates who descended on dear old Midd in June on the occasion of our 20th reunion. During a truly breathtaking weekend in terms of weather, the "usual suspects" returned for their regular five-year visit, but many returned for the first time since graduation to see the Class of 1985 win the Raymond A. Ablondi '52 Cup, presented to the class (other than the post-50th reunion classes) with the highest participation in reunion giving. Our overall reunion class gift weighed in at over $1.5M. Among those in a hot Mead Chapel to watch **Andy Gluck** and **Martha Turnbull Higgins**, reunion gift class agents, accept the award were **Matt Dawson** (an architect living in San Francisco), **Jennifer Davis Dunne** (a marketing consultant living in Lake Forest, Ill.), **Dave St. George** (a marketing consultant living in Southern California in his post-Navy years), **Andrew Bermingham** (back in the States after many years in Great Britain), **Peter** and **Elizabeth Thompson Hotvedt**, **Mike Nealey**, and Peter Kohn, who once again joined his adopted class for convocation. The Middlebury premiere of the award-winning film, *The Keeper of the Kohn*, was one of the highlights of the weekend for me and **Jen Godfrey**, **Chip Kenyon**, **Walker Mygatt**, **Cammy Briggs Roffe** (still teaching private school in western Connecticut), and **Patrick O'Donoghue** (a NYC attorney). ✳ Official reunion festivities kicked off with a Friday class dinner at Ross Dining Hall attended by **Otto** and **Maggie Russell Berkes**, **Don Hall** (still at Microsoft after 14 years), **Jim Ammeen** (lawyering in Indianapolis), **Andy Waugh** (lawyering in Boston with a specialization in employment law), **Chris Santella** (author of a new book on golf due out this fall), **Rawson Hubbell** (still doing financial planning), **Brian Concannon** (living in western Oregon, but doing legal work on behalf of the people of Haiti), **Deb Payne Jewell**, **Robyn Reiser Barkin** (living in Buckhead), **Don MacKenzie**, **Karen Heggen** (Saratoga, N.Y., area attorney), and **Tom Panitz**. ✳ Well over half the class hunkered down in Hepburn Hall for the night, mingling until the wee hours in the lounge, and went off in various directions Saturday morning. **Dave** and **Nancy Metcalfe Tegeler** and **Sarah Van Tuyl Ray** were spotted hiking up Snake Mountain. **Maura Toole Weis** and **Nick Hahn** (marketing consulting) took to the trails in the 5k fun run. **Lissa Briggs Gosiger** was spotted in the bookstore. A legion of classmates made it to a barbeque lunch behind the Center for Fine Arts, including **JP Tracey** (a physician in the Boston area), **Doug White**, **Carl Dietrich**, **Jon Roth**, **Jennifer Karin Sidford**, **Robin Russ Aborn** (still in Hingham, Mass., running a retail store with her sister-in-law, wife of **Craig Russ**), **Mimi Wyss Eingorn** (still in NYC), **Laura Thrall Kaufman**, **Laura Ottaviano Copic**, **Chris Powell**, **Ware Kuschner** and **Karen Clark**, **Chris Lande**, and **Chris Joslin**. In the heat of the afternoon, many opted to swim at Midd's fabulous natatorium, including **John** and **Mimi Harding Owen** (still in Fairfield County), **Kim Davis Gluck** (still managing high net worth portfolios in Boston), **Suzanne Uhrig Eidson**, **Miguel Fernandez** (tenured professor at our alma mater), and **Tom** (recently hired to open the Chicago office of a Cincinnati-based market research firm) and **Heather Henderson Palmer** (back in school toward being a school administrator). ✳ Into the evening, we dined on salmon under tents on the Battell Fields, catching up with **Brenda Birmann**, **John White** (pseudo retired from an investment banking career in NYC), **David Yim**, **Cynthia Vanvranken Keating**, **Nancy Urner-Berry**, **Paul Oyer**, **Win Furber** and **Cordelia Pitman**, **Beatriz Esguerra Escallon**, **Wes Carrington**, **Joe Braley**, **Kristin Anderson May**, **Jim Upton**, **Peter Clough** (living in the western suburbs of Chicago), **Sarah Ramseyer Klein** (lawyering in Seattle), **Peter Eglinton**, **Suzanne Poulin Rowan**, **T Nelson**, **Rebecca Liston**, **David** and **Cynthia Martin Brown**, **Pam Brown**, **Jennifer Gibson Lewis**, and **Catherine Hill Jahrling**. Later that night a hearty group headed to McCullough to hear the Grifts. Spotted amongst the revelers were **Pat Holmes**, **Karen Sothern**, **Sarah Dunlap Sampson**, **Jim Davidowitz**, and **Josh Paris** (as well as some of our teenage *kids* hit-

ting on one another). ✷ Official activities closed with a Sunday brunch hosted at the home of **Sarah Burchfield Carey**'s parents. Among those enjoying a lavish spread were **Jon Kelly**, **Andy Bell** (doing great work with kids in NYC), **Keith Lubell** (owns a glass blowing business and does computer programming in NYC), **Don Ryder** (still in Boston with Fidelity and living across the street from **Josh Klein**), **Deb Tripp Budden**, **Steve Buzbee**, **Lizzy Attridge Melville**, and **Sara Dowd Wells**. ✷ As for me, most people avoided me for the three days of reunion as I tried to rustle up a couple of new class secretaries. After 10 years it's time to move on. I'm pleased to announce that our favorite identical twins, **Denah Lohmann Toupin** and **Ruth Lohmann Davis,** have successfully been coerced—strike that—have willingly accepted the assignment of class secretaries for the next five years. It has been a pleasure serving Middlebury's greatest class and I can't wait to return to campus for our silver anniversary reunion in 2010. We'll see you all then.
—Class Secretaries: *Ruth Lohmann Davis (rdavis@comcaast.net), 2 Maple St., Durham, NH 03824; and Denah Lohmann Toupin (denaht@comcast.net), 12 Rinzee Rd., Dracut, MA 01826.*

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Our 20th [gulp] reunion may be coming up, but some '86ers have been having fun getting together on a smaller scale. Last May, **Mary Sue Holland Dehn** invited pals **Lisa Eddy Donnelly**, **Laura Gworek King**, **Christine Langlois**, **Jennifer Lawrence Horan**, and **Debbie Vehse Lund** to visit her in Rochester, N.Y., for a weekend of wine-tasting in the Finger Lakes. Mary Sue reports they "hit three wineries on Keuka Lake, laughed a lot, and enjoyed each other's company." After 12 years at CBS News, Mary Sue quit her job as a producer of *48 Hours* and the family left NYC for Rochester, trading in city life for a bigger house, bigger yard, and good schools. Writes Mary Sue: "Frank now commutes to his NYC media law practice by plane rather than train—thanks to Jet Blue! He goes down Tuesday morning and is back by the kids' bedtime on Thursday night. He's home for dinner two nights a week, which he never was (nor was I!) in NYC." In even bigger news, baby No. 4—Brendan Robert Dehn—was born March 23, 2005, much to the delight of sisters Molly (6) and Caroline (5), and brother Michael (2). Mary Sue reports she's loving spending time with the kids, and eventually hopes to do a little free-lance producing, writing, or teaching. Debbie Lund, who with husband Michael has three kids—Ian (10), Alexander (8), and Chloe (4)—was returning to work in the fall, teaching physics at Newton North High School. Christine Langlois also calls Newton, Mass., home. She lives there with husband Doug Herrick, where she teaches French and Spanish to middle schoolers: "I get to plug Middlebury frequently, sharing with my classes stories and sometimes even pictures from my year abroad. The kids' reaction often is, 'That's YOU, Madame?' Guess I don't still look like I'm 20! I love my job! I'm having a great time and hope I am contributing something to the development of good world citizens too." Speaking of the world, Jenni and husband Kevin (an anesthesiologist) were totally adventurous, taking their four girls—Kaitlin (12), Stephanie (10), Cynthia (8), and Melissa (5)—on an amazing trip to Florence and Rome. As for the rest of the gang, Mary Sue reports that Lisa's in Rye with husband John, home with kids Jack (8) and Jaime (6). Laura and her husband John are in Simsbury, Conn., with their two children, Charlie and Jillian. ✷ **Antonia Sparrow** and her kids—Brenna (1) and Soren (4)—were meeting up with **Beckie Fuller-Alexander** for a 40th birthday trip to Taos, N.M. Beckie brought sons Nico and Per. ✷ I (**Macon Morehouse**) had a great visit from Joe and **Heather Breed O'Neil**. Their three girls—Evelyn, Madeline, and Audrey—got along like gang-busters with my daughter, Claire. And I recently ran into **Chris** and **Bettina Thompson Stern** at a Nationals game here in D.C. (Go Nats!) Chris left his job as a business writer at the *Washington Post* in late 2004 and joined boutique research firm, Medley Global Advisors. "I write about the same issues I covered for the *Post,* including media and telecommunications," Chris writes. "I miss the buzz of the newsroom but the long hours that come with daily journalism are not exactly great when it comes to family life. With three boys (12, 9, and 5), I decided it was time to be around the house a little more." Bettina is busy helping **Bryan Rich** organize the renovation of his house in Georgetown so he can complete the move of his family from Bogota, Colombia, to D.C. ✷ Congratulations to Carrie Deane and **John Corcoran**, who were married in January 2004. John is still at UBS in Stamford and Carrie co-runs a family kitchen design firm in New Canaan, Conn., where they now reside. The Corcorans celebrated the arrival of son Peter Baker Corcoran on June 27, 2005. ✷ **Sarah Lewis Belcher** has joined the Albany, N.Y., office of law firm Bond, Schoeneck & King PLLC as senior counsel. She's a member of the firm's real estate, environmental, and finance group. ✷ **Christina Keller** updates from Miami, Fla.: "For two years I worked as a pediatric physical therapist for Dolphin Human Therapy (DHT) in Key Largo, Fla. Most of my patients came from Europe, primarily Germany and Austria, which was a lot of fun because I was able to speak German during the sessions. I left DHT this April to work full time with my sister and help her teach manual lymphatic drainage courses. Although we are currently concentrating on Mexico, we have taught classes as far away as Saudi Arabia." ✷ **Mike Kinnealey** has left the orange and blue of Milton for the maroon and blue of Belmont Hill, "at least in part because my new school still allows administrators to teach and coach. This year I was an assistant baseball coach to Eddie Gallagher—a legend at BHS—and we were able to win the ISL championship. It has been a great year for all of the Kinnealeys." Mike hopes to get to campus for our 20th next spring.
—Class Secretaries: *Macon Morehouse (macon_morehouse@peoplemag.com), 5805 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20814; and Lisa Cheney Sullivan (sullivanlisa@mindspring.com), 42 Massasoit Ave., Sudbury, MA 01776.*

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George and **Ellen Sheffield Pace** welcomed daughter Dalton Christine on July 11, 2005. Gus writes from St. Louis: "She is perfect in every way, just like her namesakes. She is named after her mother (Ellen's middle name is Dalton) and my grandmother." ✷ Alexander (Alec) Prescott Wiedemann arrived on July 18, 2005, much to the delight of his parents, Jano and **Edie Iler Wiedemann**, and brother Oliver. ✷ The 2005 John Swan Lecture on Intellectual Freedom was given on June 9 by **Laurie Lane-Zucker**, president of the Triad Institute. He spoke in Brattleboro on "A New Vision of Citizenship for a Fast-Globalizing and Ecologically Challenged World." Prior to starting Triad, Laurie was the senior staff member of the Orion Society since its inception. He joined the *Orion* magazine staff in 1991, and spearheaded the transformation of the magazine into a multifaceted cultural, educational, and political organization. He has also published two series of books, The Nature Literacy Series and New Patriotism Series. ✷ **Joseph Nevins** is the author of *A Not-So-Distant Horror, Mass Violence in East Timor* (Cornell University Press, 2005). A prof. at Vassar College, his new book reportedly "unveils the extent of Paul Wolfowitz's complicity in Indonesian war crimes."
—Class Secretaries: *Elizabeth Ryan O'Brien (obrien@bigwhoop.com), 93 High Ridge Rd., Pound Ridge, NY 10576; and Tom Funk (tfunk@VTBear.com), 30 Many Waters Ln., Bristol, VT 05443.*

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Anya Puri sent a message that should inspire us all to create our own gatherings: "Every year, a group of us '88ers plan a get-together. We pick a different location each summer and gather for a long weekend, sans husbands and children." This past June, we—Anya, **Wendy McDonnell Hale**, **Sandra Peterson More**, **Marnie Cunningham Terhune**, **Shannon Murphy Brown**, **Cindy Horn Jeffery**, and **Sarah Roman**—spent a weekend in Vegas. We're deciding where to go next year—when we all turn 40! Gulp! Hope you are all well!" ✷ Last spring, **Sara Folta** got her Ph.D. at Tufts Univ. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy. Her research is on delivering nutrition messages to schoolchildren. Sara and husband Vincent Maganzini live in Medford, Mass. ✷ Still living in Los Angeles, **David Gregoire** recently went to work for the Screen Actors Guild as an in-house attorney. ✷ **John Walker** has been named VP and interactive director at Scheffey Integrated Marketing, the firm formed by the recent merger of Scheffey Advertising and e-walker, the interactive marketing firm John founded. ✷ In the "better-late-than-never category," **Jen Kitchin Walker** writes: "Life has been a whirlwind, with lots of good news over the past four years. In spring 2001 I left a great group of London Midd-kids and moved to San Fran, where I rapidly found more alums for playmates. That summer I met my now-husband, Paul Walker (an '83 Univ. of Texas Longhorn) on a beach in Livermore, Calif., at a swim race! We got married on May 31, 2003, amidst the redwoods in Los Gatos, with a crew of '88s there to celebrate, including **Paula Ricciardelli Sumberg**, **Margie McDonald DeVine**, **Suzie Tayer Montgomery**, Andy Cornish '89 and **Sara VanGenderen**, Dave Hennessy '85 and **Jackie Brown-Hennessy** (with daughters Hannah, Kelly, and Erin), **Marla Henken**, Steve Gunther '87, and Leslie Manookian Bradshaw '86 in from London with husband Neil and son Caelin. To keep things exciting, Paul and I started a business and moved to Austin, Texas, less than one year later. And while we were at it, we threw in having a kid, too! On January 15, 2005, to our great delight, we welcomed son Logan Bennett Walker. We are loving being parents—and multitasking! If you're passing through Austin, drop a line (Jennifer@snaptosell.com)."
—Class Secretaries: *John Brainerd (jbinfbx@gmail.com), 3910 Frenchman Rd., Fairbanks, AK 99709; and Claire Gwatkin Jones (gwatko@yahoo.com), 334 N. Oakland St., Arlington, VA 22203.*

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Steve Hopkins ran his first marathon in Memphis, Tenn., in fall 2004. Even with the birth of second son Ben at the beginning of the season, he managed to coach the Mary Institute and St. Louis Country Day School boys' varsity lacrosse team to victory in the Missouri State Championship. ✳ Kristin and **Kemper Ryan** had a baby boy on April 23. Living near Wrigley Field in Chicago, the Ryans and son Keller were already planning their first baseball game for September when the Astros would be in town to play the Cubs. ✳ **Erik Vigsnes** was recently inducted into the Vermont Principals Association Athletic Hall of Fame. Erik and wife Kristen live in Ipswich, Mass., with son Ryder.

—Class Secretaries: *Keith Pennell (kpennell@dfwcapital.com), 1 Powder Hill, Saddle River, NJ 07458; and Jeff Somers (jeffs@zillow.com), 4220 51st Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98118.*

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We are happy to welcome **Dawn Cagley Drew** as co-secretary for our class notes. Please note her e-mail and feel free to send her your updates and news! Also, many thanks to **Katie Edwards** for ably assisting in the quarterly collection and compilation of notes. We would like to add that this column would be happy to enlist any other classmate as a co-secretary, should there be interest. If you feel your creative juices would benefit from having Middlebury class notes as another outlet, please contact Toder or Dawn! ✳ Lots of baby announcements! Rudy Peterson Seaborn was born in April 2004, joining siblings Graham Evan (5), Grace Helen (3), and parents Eric and **Diane Peterson Seaborn**. They live at the Dana Hall School (Wellesley, Mass.), where Diane teaches. She also works part time at Boston Univ. ✳ Steve '89 and **Deb Reed Hopkins** welcomed son Benjamin Merritt Hopkins on February 24. He joins brother Nate (4). "We continue to love living in St. Louis, where Steve works at Mary Institute and St. Louis Country Day School and I work part time in development at John Burroughs School. I recently traveled with Ben (at 12 weeks of age) to Madison, Wis., to meet up with **Kara Hordlow Smith**, who was in town on business from her home in The Hague, Netherlands." ✳ **John** and Ashley Snyder '89 **McCulloch** are the parents of James (4) and Caroline (1). They left Denver and moved to Pacific Palisades (near L.A.) a couple of years ago, then up to the Bay Area, again for work. John says they are very happy to be back in California: "As a Pisces, I need the water. We're living in Tiburon and I work in the city (investment real estate) which allows me to commute by ferry, which is *muy tranquilo*." ✳ **Dan McConville** was blessed with the addition of twin boys, Cormac and James, on March 8: "Everyone is doing great, though a little sleep deprived. My girls (6 and 3) are taking it in stride." As an analyst at Prentiss and Carlisle, a forestland management and consulting company in Bangor, Dan does growth modeling and calculates allowable harvest levels: "I'm working on a project to get the company green certified, which should happen soon, and I do a lot of projects that involve financial analyses for other large timberland owners and for those who buy timberland for investors. It's really going well thus far; very fast paced and interesting." ✳ Jon and **Kim Gager Daly** welcomed Samantha Kathleen into their lives on March 14. They live in Andover, Mass., where Kim is a business development manager for Cognizant Technology Solutions, while Jon is a business analyst for Putnam Investments. ✳ Congratulations to Sara and **Jeffrey Erlbaum**, who had their second child, Noah Zachary, on December 27, 2004. They recently spent a week in Jamaica with **David** and Liz Blanchfield '91 **King** and their two kids. While the kids were being entertained by Elmo, the Erlbaums and Kings sat on the beach sipping rum punch and reminiscing about Midd. ✳ **Pam Rosser Thistle** is working part time as a PR consultant and spending the rest of her time with children Zoe (3) and Sally (1) in Center City Philadelphia and their shore house in Cape May Point, N.J. ✳ Middlebury writer **Jessie Sturchio Raymond** won the New England Press Association 2004 Better Newspaper Competition for a humor column. Congratulations! ✳ After spending four years at Bates as a French professor with the last two years as head women's hockey coach, **Adam Leff** has made a change: "In January, Lolo put her foot down and made me realize that a life without coaching is not one that I should relish. That being the case, I turned down the professorial ranks and am starting at the St. George's School in Newport, R.I., in September. I'll be chairing the French department and coaching the women's hockey team. Lolo and the kids are excited, even though it means Lolo giving up a full-time position with the Lewiston Maineiacs." ✳ News from new secretary Dawn: "We've had a lot of changes over the last year. After 14 years of marriage, I had my first child, Alexander Page, on April 22—which is also my husband's birthday. Alex is a really happy baby and I'm really enjoying being a mom. Last fall, my husband Scott was transferred to Norfolk, Va., with the Navy so we built a house in Moyock, N.C., which is about 45 minutes south. We basically live in southern Virginia as we are just over the state line. We're still settling in and fighting with the builder, but like the area." Dawn is a consultant with BearingPoint, using her background in human resources management. She works from home most of the time, traveling to Maryland periodically to meet with clients. ✳ Finally, we want to add how wonderful it was to see everyone and catch up just a bit at reunion in June. Thanks to all who made it for the 15th and let's all give it the college try to bring back even more friends for our 20th!

—Class Secretaries: *Dawn Cagley Drew (dmd_phr@hotmail.com), 138 Eagleton Circle, Moyock, NC 27958; and Elizabeth Toder (eatoder@hotmail.com), 107 Smith St., #3F, Brooklyn, NY 11201.*

Stage 15: Erin Hill Berard '93 offers an inside look at Kevin Mahaney's Tour de France Challenge

"As the van winds along the rolling hills of the Pyrenees, my left hand grips the laptop with the GPS software while my right elbow steadies the second computer resting on my lap. My right hand clutches my BlackBerry. The *Michelin 2005 France Driving Atlas* and the official *Tour de France (TDF) 2005 Route Book* are sliding back and forth across the dashboard with each turn. Two cell phones are ringing.

Joe answers his—it's Destination Cycling's cofounder Walter Driscoll calling about the logistics of his pickup from the Toulouse airport, where he has just landed.

I answer mine—it's OLN TV's producer Cathy Cooper asking when Kevin and the team will be starting the Col de Peyresourde and if they can film them on the way down. I grab the TDF Route Book from the dash, look up today's stage time schedule, and provide an ETA of 5:30 P.M. at the 100-mile mark.

The walkie-talkie (the riders' radio) crackles loudly—it's Franky, the ex-professional Belgian rider, who is radio-wired today, asking Joe for our location and reporting a mechanical problem. Franky reports the nine riders' current location at the 24-mile mark.

My cell phone rings—caller ID indicates it is Mikael, our team mechanic, who is driving the riders' support van with one of our soigneurs, Brian. Mikael tells me that when they stopped to fuel the van and to repair a fuse, the van's anti-theft system locked down the ignition. This stranded van was stocked with all of the riders' snacks, lunches, and drinks for their longest tour ride yet—130 miles, 16,000 feet of climbing over six mountain ascents.

Meanwhile my BlackBerry vibrates—it's one of our sponsors, Clif Bar, sending us a FedEx tracking number for extra Clif Bars to be delivered to us on Monday in Lourdes. I get Mikael's location at Le Fossat (20 miles away) and we drive back to find them and to transfer their supplies to our van. I hear another vibration sound, slightly muffled, and look frantically around my seat before remembering that it's Kevin's BlackBerry, left in the glove box for safe keeping while he's on the bike.

Welcome to a day supporting Kevin Mahaney '85 and the Tour de France Challenge 2005.

For more on Kevin's effort, see page 71.

Save the Dates

Upcoming Alumni and Parent Events

December 7
New York Chapter Holiday Party

December 14
Boston Chapter Holiday Party

February 4
Middlebury February Celebration
for mid-year graduates

A complete listing of events is available on the Web at www.middlebury.edu/alumni/events/

91 REUNION CLASS

Alden Whittaker hosted a farewell shindig on June 11 at his house in Denver before leaving for Namibia to volunteer for the Cheetah Conservation Fund. Until his return on November 16, he's helping out with field research, the Cheetah Country Beef eco-label, a camera trapping census, grant writing, etc. "I would love to have visitors, so if you can recover from the shock of the cost of airfare, come on over!" ✳ **Dave O'Hara** recently completed his Ph.D. in philosophy and accepted an appointment as assistant prof. at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, S.D., where he'll be teaching philosophy and Greek. **Christina Swenson O'Hara** is glad he's finally done! Both Dave and Christina can report that a career in the humanities is still not a get-rich-quick scheme, but it's a lot of fun. Christina continues to work as a campus minister, and is beginning training as a spiritual director. ✳ Written and co-produced by **Hector Hill**, *Greener Mountains* was featured at the Boston International Film Festival in June. A coming of age story about growing up in Vermont, *Greener Mountains* revolves around the lives of an eclectic mix of characters at a rustic Vermont family resort. ✳ **Marcy Withington** sent news of the arrival of daughter Alexandra Withington Kelsey on June 14. After spending the summer in Old Lyme, Conn., she was returning to work in NYC at Viacom, where she is senior VP finance at MTV Networks. ✳ After a stint with the Center for Northern Studies in northern Vermont, a few frigid years in Finland finally netted **Scott Jones** a master's in geography, focusing on Arctic ship tourism: "This meant, of course, lots of academic research from expedition cruise ships around the European, Canadian, and U.S. Arctics. Drawn southward, I landed in Alabama developing South American tourism for U.S. environmentalists and self-styled ecotourists. Not satisfied with that amount of southernness, I moved to Santiago, Chile, doing marketing for a large tourism company there. Chile is pretty much fun, still safe, relatively cheap, rapidly developing, and with every stunning natural environment on the planet, all connected by daily flights. Recently I opened my own small business, bringing elderly North Americans to Chile (www.chileanspecialjourneys.com) and began the first group tour last April—a unique, in-depth, 21-day tour highlighting Chile's remarkable, 38 degrees of latitude, cultural and natural diversity. Please send clients and be sure to be in touch should you make it to Santiago!"

—Class Secretaries: *Bill Driscoll (william.driscoll@rhi.com), 743 Wildwood Rd., Atlanta, GA 30324; and Kate J. Kelley (katekjk@comcast.net), 1057 Milwaukee St., Denver, CO 80206.*

92

After two years as a rabbi at Temple Bat Yam and the South Lake Tahoe and Valley Regions Jewish Community, **Jonathan Freirich** is hoping to spend at least six more years there. Jonathan and wife Ginny Reel '94 enjoy life out there, especially the skiing. While skiing in February, Jonathan broke his back, but he healed up quickly enough to ski again in April and over Memorial Day weekend. Ginny has a busy business creating Jewish wedding contracts. Staying in touch with several classmates via a list serve they maintain, Jonathan reports that **Julian Bernick** is living in Minneapolis, **Joel Peckham** and son Darius are living in New Hampshire (teaching high school and coaching baseball), and **Zsolt Tolgyesi** is still living in Vermont. ✳ After 12 years (can anyone beat that tenure?) at Wellington Capital Management in Singapore and Boston, **Gavin Ma** recently started working at a hedge fund in Boston. ✳ **Warren Dowd** has returned to San Francisco to lead Deutsche Bank's West Coast institutional equities sales group. ✳ **Tristram Perkins** recently joined the private equity group at Lehman Brothers in NYC after several years at Deutsche Bank. ✳ **Michael** and Kristin Currier '94 **Benjamin** are still teaching at Kent School, where they live with daughters Alice (5) and Zoe (3). Mike still dabbles in ecology research at the Institute of Ecosystem Studies in Millbrook, N.Y., working on ways to control tick populations to reduce incidence of Lyme disease. The Benjamins recently traveled to North Carolina, where they visited Michael '94 and Sarah Matchett Hunn '93 in Davidson. ✳ **Nick Elfner** and wife Raina relocated from Toronto to Boston in July: "It's great to be going home after almost 15 years away from the Hub. Looking forward to meeting more Midd kids at the next Boston alumni meeting." Nick and Raina were in California in March and spent some quality time with Shelley and **Kingman Gordon**, Sharon and **Drew Meyers**, and Joanne and **Matt Pauley**. Kingman reports a recent 10-mile hike in Marin that involved Drew and **Packy Briggs**. Drew, who runs the Schwab account at Digitas, and wife Sharon moved to the Bay Area in the fall. When not traveling for ESPN ("which is all too often"), Kingman hopes to see some of the other Midd folks in the area, like Ian Morton '91, Phil McCrea '91, John '93 and **Blakely Anderson Atherton**, and Paul '91 and **Tish O'Mara Scola**. Kingman hopes to do some fly fishing in the Deschutes River and look up guide **Amy Randall** to introduce him to the area. ✳ **Lisa Darak** writes that she and partner Jani recently relocated from Connecticut to Portland, Maine, to be closer to Jani's aging parents. Lisa telecommutes to the job she's had for eight years in Connecticut, doing financial reporting. ✳ After several years in London and a brief stint in NYC, **Christine Bushey Leggett** writes that she is getting settled in her new home in D.C., where she moved with her husband and son Henry (1). ✳ **Lisa Christoffersen** and husband Jeff welcomed daughter Annika in June 2004. Still happily living in Seattle, Lisa practices immigration law three days a week, leaving lots of time for Annika. She keeps up with **Kate Larocque**, who also lives in Seattle with husband Brad Jones and son Gavin. A teacher with the Seattle Public School District, Kate recently finished her master's in education at the Univ. of Wash. ✳ Knut and **Campbell Barrett Hellandsvik** welcomed daughter Mia Grace on Thanksgiving Day 2004. Mia joins brother Oscar (2). Campbell and her family are still living in London, but they make frequent trips to her husband's native Norway and also to the U.S. She writes that **Sarah Cameron**, who also lives in London, welcomed son Wyatt Alexander in March 2005. ✳ First child Emma Chapman Doty joined Cheryl and **John Doty** on December 10, 2004. They live in Silver Spring, Md., near **Don** and Nancy Zagami '93 **Hunt**, and their children, Devon (4), Bridget (2), and baby Tristan (6 mos.). ✳ Still living in Champaign, Ill., **Jules Reinhart Elkins** teaches economics and husband Zach teaches political science. She writes that "childbearing seems immensely popular right now, as Jeff '91 and **Christa Hawryluk Collins** welcomed daughter Phoebe in the spring and **Shasta Darlington** (still living in Italy and reporting for Reuters) had a baby boy, Niko, in January. **Hillary Miller Wise** and husband Alfred are living in D.C., but are renovating a house in Maryland and expect to move soon. ✳ **Megan Richardson Durkin** and husband Patrick welcomed child No. 4 (!) on April 1. Daughter Emily joins Amanda (8), Peter (6), and James (3) in Hingham, Mass. ✳ **Jill Sagner** and husband Steve Lipman live in Northern California with sons William and Charlie. Charlie arrived on April 28. ✳ Kate and **Jon Owsley** welcomed daughter Natalie McKnight Owsley on June 7. "Big sister Macy loves having a live baby doll to play with." ✳ **Terry Wise** and wife Amberly welcomed their second child, a baby girl, on June 12. Terry was getting together with **Keith Wilson**, **Tyson Freeman**, and **Mike Rex** in Steamboat Springs July 8 for Keith's 10th wedding anniversary party. ✳ **John Rudge** got a great father's day gift this year from wife Sara Weale—daughter Elizabeth Louise Rudge, who arrived on June 19. Big brother Charlie (2.5) is enjoying his baby sister so far. ✳ **Megan Underwood** got married in Santa Monica on April 23 to Benjamin Beatie (Colby College '92), who is a television producer. They live in Santa Monica, where Megan runs the West Coast office of Goldberg McDuffie Communications, the book publicity firm she worked for when she lived in NYC. Jeanine and **Justin Ayers** came to the wedding, as well as Amy Nichols '97. ✳ **Stefanie Hirsh** and Kurt Cousins (UPenn '90) were married on July 3 at the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, N.C. **Lilly Gray** and **Kate Unterberg Kessler** were among the attendees. Stef and Kurt live in Durham, N.C., where Stef is the health producer for public television station UNC-TV. She recently finished her first documentary which is about needle exchange programs for Intravenous Drug Users in North Carolina. This fall she's entering the master's in public health program at UNC-Chapel Hill, where Kurt is starting his second year of medical school.

—Class Secretaries: *Fred Lawrence (flawrence@ipaa.org), 3831 Rodman St. NW, D-28, Washington, DC 20016; and Sara Weale (sweale@mindspring.com), 200 W. 86th St., #5D, New York, NY 10024.*

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Ryan Kelty (ryan.kelty@usma.edu) reports: "I completed my doctoral program in sociology at the Univ. of Maryland (Fear the Turtle!), where I specialized in

social psychology and military sociology. I am now an assistant prof. at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, where I look forward to teaching and continuing my research. My wife, Ruth Kelty '95, and I now live in Cornwall, N.Y., and welcome correspondence and visits from old Midd friends." ✳ Dr. **Rebecca Chollet** splits her time between her practice at the Champlain Center for Natural Medicine in Shelburne, Vt., and Monadnock Natural Medicine, in Peterborough, N.H. With her doctorate in Naturopathic Medicine degree from Bastyr Univ. (Seattle, Wash.), she has expertise in the areas of homeopathy, craniosacral therapy, clinical nutrition, and botanical medicine. Specializing in the treatment of mental health diseases and children with behavioral disorders, she reports that she does "the gamut in pediatrics and adult health care." ✳ **Fred Reimers** quit his job as managing editor of *Paddler* magazine last year to go back to school at the Univ. of Oregon for a master's in journalism. ✳ **Mike Nichols** married Mary Beth Mead on March 26, 2005, in Nellysford, Va. They live in Dayton, Ohio, and Mike is the director of the 2005 U.S. Senior Open Golf Championship. ✳ Rob and **Melissa Farrell Griswold** welcomed daughter Allison Elayne on October 11, 2004. She joins proud big sister Hannah (6). Melissa writes: "I'm working part time as the information outreach specialist at the Mainstream Center at Clarke School for the Deaf/Center for Oral Education in Northampton, Mass. With the flexibility and understanding of the terrific staff there and some creativity on my part, Ally joins me at work everyday as my new assistant! I am grateful for the opportunity to keep a job that I love and not miss a minute with Ally. Rob travels the country working with the human resources division of C&S Wholesale Grocers. We have been living in Westhampton, Mass., for six years." ✳ **Eddie** and Sarah Ellwood '92 **Opler** welcomed daughter Phoebe Patrizia on October 14, 2004. With two sisters—Sophie (4) and Chloe (2)—"Phoebe is definitely not lacking in love and attention!" The Oplers had a chance to visit some other Midd alums recently; they thank **Jason** and **Kathy Dougan Cort** and children Josie (4) and Andy (2), along with Mark and **Meredith McLean Gramelspacher** and Cate (14 mos.) for their hospitality.

—Class Secretaries: *Dan Suratt (daniel.suratt@nbc.com), 60 Pineapple St., #71, Brooklyn, NY 11201; and Maria Diaz (latinawriter@gmail.com), 244 8th Ave., Paterson, NJ 07514.*

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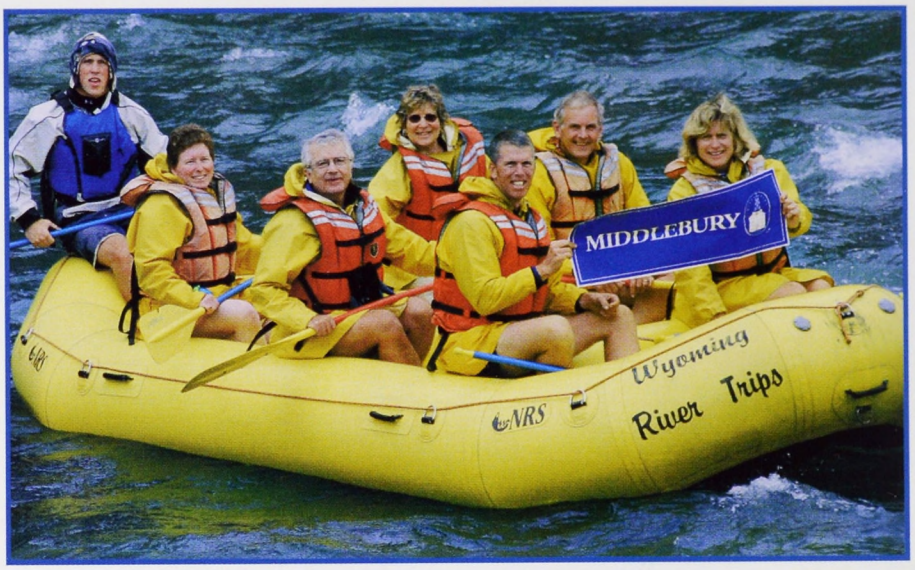
Secretary Robertson reports: **Wendy Winet** (gwendolyn@mugglenet.com) writes: "I'm going to beautiful Edinburgh, Scotland, for a year (2005/06) to get my master's in medieval studies (MSc), and I'm really looking forward to it!" ✳ **David Stahler**'s young adult novel, *A Gathering of Shades* (HarperTempest, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishing), came out in May. He and wife Erica Lombard Stahler '92 live in Wheelock, Vt., and he teaches English at Lyndon Institute. ✳ **Beth Galistel Winikur** and husband Jon welcomed a new addition to their family this year. Erik was born on April 26, 2004, and adopted by the Winikurs in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on January 12, 2005. ✳ **Kristin Daly Patterson** and husband Ernest are living in Telluride, Colo., at the Telluride Mountain School, where he is Head of School. Kristin is enjoying being home with daughter Aven Grace (3) and son Bryce Sheridan, who arrived on December 2, 2004. They all love hiking, skiing, and exploring in their mountain home! ✳ **Matt Thomas** reports that daughter Maya Anikka (2) is doing well and already growing up too quickly. Matt was finishing his residency in urology at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center this June, and moving to Minocqua, Wis., to join the Marshfield Clinic. Friends should drop him a line at mdskibum2@yahoo.com. ✳ Vikram '91 and **Tara Sweeney Capoor** are loving life as parents to son Milan Alexander (19 mos.). Tara is director of marketing communications at AEI, a D.C. think tank. "I've enjoyed catching up with **Kelly Cole** (and husband Will Dobson '95), who recently moved to town, and look forward to seeing **Stacey Gannon** who will visit soon." Tara writes that she "received a wonderful update from **Joanna Schemm Slatkine**, who now lives in Geneva, Switzerland, with husband Ivan, daughter Anastasia (19 mos.), and baby daughter Natasha Eloise Slatkine, born May 28. ✳ **Erin O'Callaghan** and James Turner, who were married on April 30, live in Milton, Vt. Erin is a law clerk and her husband is a computer systems administrator and district court trainer for the U.S. District Court, District of Vermont. ✳ The marriage of **Amy Synnott** and Christopher D'Annibale took place on May 7. In NYC, Amy is the beauty news director at *InStyle* magazine, while Christopher is a partner in Logos Capital Management.

—Class Secretaries: *Gene Swift (geneswift@mac.com), 24463 Montevista Cir., Valencia, CA 91354; and M. Helene Robertson (mhrobertson.94@alumni.middlebury.edu), 75-6081 Ali'I Dr., Unit Z-202, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740.*



Twenty alumni—ranging from the Class of 1949 to the Class of 1990—descended on Montana's Yellowstone Bighorn Research Association for a week of Alumni College in August. There, Middlebury associate professor of geography Dave West and local plant ecologist Phil Robertson led a program focusing on geology, botany, and ecology in one of the country's most breathtaking locales.

95

Retiring secretaries Mullane and Friberg report: It is with great enthusiasm that we welcome **Emily Aikenhead Hannon** and **JP Watson** as co-secretaries for the Class of 1995! They look forward to hearing news from everyone at their addresses below. ✳ Pediatrics resident at Duke Univ. **Edwin Williamson** writes: "I'm in Durham, N.C., and the only times I get to speak Chinese these days are a) to get better food in restaurants and b) to impress the post-docs around the hospital!" ✳ Foster and **Janine Hetherington** welcomed second son Eamon Morgan at home on September 30, 2004. He joins big brother James (3). Foster recently accepted an offer to be the director of business development for Gilbane. "While we are excited about the career opportunity, we are very sad to have to leave our home for the past seven years. We will be moving to Old Bennington, Vt., this summer—closer to work for Fos and closer to his family. With any luck, we'll find a big old house with plenty of room for guests. We'd love to hear from friends at janifost@verizon.net." ✳ Hieu '92 and **Shannon Detweiler Nguyen** welcomed son Holden Hieu Nguyen on May 5. He joins big sister Sydney, who turned two in May. ✳ George Robert Friberg arrived on May 26, much to the delight of his parents, Trish and **Greg Friberg**. Needless to say, they were unable to make the reunion, but they were thinking of everyone. ✳ **Alexandra Richman Labovitz** writes: "I regret missing our 10th reunion last summer, but I had a good reason. Our son, Benjamin Daniel Labovitz, was born on June 4. Ben has already been told that he will be celebrating his fifth birthday at Middlebury, and he loves wearing the Middlebury onesie that **Andrea Zlotucha Kozub** sent him." Alex and Jeff and Ben are living in southeastern Wisconsin, where Alex is enjoying her work as a pediatrician for Children's Medical Group. ✳ On June 15, George and **Betsey Traver Linge** became the parents of first child Hope Elizabeth Linge: "Needless to say, we think she's the greatest thing ever!" ✳ The marriage of **Hillary Beard** and Steven Schafer took place in Boca Grande, Fla., on April 16. Hillary is a broker for UBS, the Swiss investment bank, in NYC. Steven is manager of retail operations in the Murray Hill branch of Wild Edibles, a NYC seafood wholesaler and retailer. ✳ On April 23, **Alyssa Banthin** and Brian Murphy were married at the Nicholas Roerich Museum on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. They met as graduate architecture students at UPenn and both are architectural designers, Alyssa at Edelman Sultan

Knox Wood/Architects and Brian at Tsao & McKown Architects.
—Class Secretaries: *Emily Aikenhead Hannon (emily.hannon@hsc.utah.edu), 1155 E. 2100 S., #647, Salt Lake City, UT 84106; and JP Watson (jpwatson @athensacademy.org), 1201 Cherokee Circle, Athens, GA 30606.*

96 REUNION CLASS

Now relocated from St. Thomas, V.I., to Bergen County, N.J., **Niamh O'Leary-Liu** is practicing law in the corporate and commercial department at Beattie Padovano in Montvale, N.J. ✷ Four years ago, **Andres Fontao** moved to Spain where he is a strategic consultant for a boutique telecommunications consultancy. While assigned to a project in Belgium, he has been commuting between Madrid, Barcelona, and Brussels. He would love to hear from anyone in the neighborhood(s) at afontao@hotmail.com. ✷ **Tonya Eza** is on her way to becoming a deaconess at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Mo. Her classroom education is completed, but she still needs to take an exam before she can claim her M.A. in exegetical theology. Tonya was moving to Wasilla, Alaska (outside of Anchorage), at the end of July to begin a one-year internship. She's working with a church and a mission committee to expand church ministries to adults in the area. ✷ **Amanda Gordon Fletcher,** husband Jonathan (a.k.a. Fletch), and their two miniature dachshunds have moved to Des Moines, Iowa. Amanda is working for the World Food Prize Foundation, a nonprofit organization that sponsors a Nobel-like international award. The award is given each year to an individual who has distinguished himself or herself in the fight against world hunger by increasing the quality, quantity, or availability of food in the world. She would love to see anyone driving cross-country on I-80: it runs just north of Des Moines. ✷ **Adeeva Fritz**, husband Jay Fritz '95, and daughter Cara (2) welcomed Ellie Worth Fritz on April 6, 2005. Adeeva juggles the girls and free-lance copywriting from their home in Concord, Mass. Jay is director of planned giving at the Belmont Hill School. ✷ **April Bolton-Smith** received her J.D. from George Mason School of Law in December. This was quite a challenge, as she continued to work at the U.S. Department of Education while pursuing her degree at night. However, she reports that it was nowhere near as difficult as trying to study for the bar while caring for her newborn daughter! Anna Morgan Smith arrived on April 11, 2005, joining playmates Sami Huck (son of **Kali Azzi-Huck**) and Isabel Metzler (daughter of **Cindy Martinez**). Some of Anna's first visitors at the hospital were Francesca and Rob Schlesinger '94, and she received a welcoming phone call from Danielle Berry Webb '95. ✷ **Andrew** and **Amy Atwood Kvaal** have moved from Boston to San Francisco, where Andrew is a consultant with the Parthenon Group and Amy teaches elementary school. ✷ In August, **Jen Kahn Hamilton** moved to Carbondale, Colo., with husband Matt '95 and son Boden (1), to teach second grade and enjoy the outdoors. ✷ **Elizabeth Prescott** reports that she and husband Daniel Stetson are both pursuing postdoctoral research at Yale: "It's nice to enjoy seasons again, but we really miss California and hope to return soon!" ✷ **Sarah Lyons** and Andrew Fischer (Emory Univ. '90) were married on May 1, 2004. The Fischers live in Pacific Grove, Calif. ✷ **Mike Kreisel** was married on November 14, 2004, to the former Randi Scherz (Union College '99) in NYC. He's still working at ABC News.

Thanks a Million!

Our alumni set a new Middlebury record for participation in annual giving this past year. One year ago, an anonymous donor challenged alumni to increase participation in stages over the next five years, pledging to add $1 million to the Alumni Fund each year if we reach our annual goal. Our goal last year was **51** percent, but an extraordinary **56** percent of alumni contributed to the College! We need to increase participation to **60** percent over the remaining four years of the challenge. Alumni support each year is critical to the College's continued success, and all of us at Middlebury are grateful to those of you who helped us achieve the first goal in our multi-year challenge.

Thank you!

Ronald D. Liebowitz

Middlebury friends at the wedding were **Kevin Creeden**, **David Herzberg**, **John Auth**, **Blaine Davis**, **Josh Braunstein**, **Derek Brown**, **Chris Louden**, **Scott Pokywra**, and Joanna Michaels '02. ✷ **Courtney Slautterback** and Rammy Harwood '94 honeymooned in Mauritius and Cape Town, South Africa, following their June 4, 2005, marriage. They live in NYC. ✷ **Mike** and **Debbie Bailey Kreuzer** welcomed son Jack Thomas on April 28, 2005. They live in San Francisco, where Mike is a wholesale account executive for Finance America and Debbie is studying acupuncture and Chinese medicine. ✷ Please continue to send us your news. We love hearing from you!
—Class Secretaries: *Megan Shattuck (meganshattuck @gmail.com), 2527 Q St. NW, #110, Washington, DC 20007; and Amanda Gordon Fletcher (argfletcher@ yahoo.com), 664 56th St., Des Moines, IA 50312.*

97

Kris Eriksen finished his fourth year in the astronomy Ph.D. program at the Univ. of Ariz.: "To escape the Tucson heat, I'm spending the summer working on my dissertation research with the Theoretical Astrophysics Group (T-6) at Los Alamos National Laboratory. I'd love to hear from the old Midd crowd at keriksen@kypselos.as.arizona.edu." ✷ **Graham Balch** (graham_balch@yahoo.com) got his MBA from Wharton in May before going out to work for the Oakland Unified School District in California for the summer and the Boston Consulting Group in Atlanta starting this fall. ✷ **Annalisa Parent** has started her own photography business. You can see her work at www.parentstudios.com. If you visited Vermont this summer, you may have seen her as ship's photographer on the *Ethan Allen II*. ✷ **Helen Froelich Plummer** has been named an assistant trust officer of Peapack-Gladstone Bank's trust and investments division. Helen and her husband live in Whitehouse, N.J. ✷ **Shenna Bellows** is the new executive director of the Maine Civil Liberties Union. She was a Peace Corps volunteer in Panama for two years and then served with Americorps, working in Nashville with low-income youth. The last two years she was in D.C. as a national field organizer with the ACLU. ✷ The marriage of Kathleen Begley and **Sean Fisher** took place on August 14, 2004, in Foxboro, Mass. Kathleen is a special education teacher in Mansfield, while Sean works at PaperThin Inc. of Quincy. ✷ **Liza Ward** and Will McCormick were married on May 21 in Duxbury, Mass. By Liza's side were **Katie Eckert**, **Jamee Field**, **Sarah Ibbotson**, and **Alyson Witmer Tierney**. Also in attendance were **Shawn Tierney**, **Jay Tandon**, **Bill Noto**, **Amy Nichols**, Craig '96 and **Jocelyn Nill Beni**, Christina Capone '00, and Ned '96 and Jennifer Handal Catto '98. ✷ **Jessica Weinstock** married Jason Graham on May 29 in Los Angeles. Middlebury friends Jocelyn Nill Beni, **Ryan D'Agastino**, and **Alan Paul** were there to help celebrate the occasion. ✷ Lots of babies to report for our class, starting with the arrival of Liam Michael on November 28, 2004, to parents Mike and **Olivia Hooper Curry**. Olivia had been teaching first grade for a few years, but gave up her job to stay home with Liam for now. ✷ Scott and **Emily Hainen Smith** (emilyhsmith@comcast .net) are delighted to report the birth of their first child, daughter Charlotte Annabel, on March 19. ✷ **Nick** and **Becky Cowgill Wilkoff** welcomed their first child, daughter Hannah Margaret, on

LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

Arabic

James Robin King ('04) has been awarded a Fulbright to study Arabic and research the application of Islamic teaching on nonviolence to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. He is studying at the Univ. of Jordan's Center for Strategic Studies in Amman, Jordan, during the 2005–2006 academic year. He previously studied in Cairo and also served on a violence reduction project in the West Bank.

English

A poetry manuscript by **Daniel Picker** (M.A. '92), who continues to teach in Philadelphia, was a finalist for the Richard Snyder Memorial Publication Prize at Ashland Univ. in Ohio. He has recently published his work in the *Dudley Review* at Harvard, where he was invited to read recently, and in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. ✷ **Lucia Kendall Lloyd** (M.A. '95) has graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree. Following her June 18 ordination, she became the assistant rector at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Ginter Park, Richmond, Va.

French

Veronica Alewyn Brelsford (M.A. '60) and husband Edmund are retiring as professors of language and literature at Marlboro College. During their 41 years at Marlboro, they have taught over 35 languages, including ancient Sumerian and Burmese. They will continue in an adjunct capacity for a few more semesters. "After doing something for most of your adult life, quitting cold turkey is not a good thing," says Veronica. ✷ June 2005 marked the retirement of **Elizabeth Keat** (M.A. '62) from over 40 years of teaching Latin and French at the Chatham School in New Jersey. ✷ **Ann Martin-Maki** (M.A. '69) retired in 2003 from her 39-year language teaching career in Gary, Ind. ✷ **Bruce Baker** (M.A. '76) is the founder and president of Semantic Compaction Systems. His company develops, translates, and licenses iconic interfaces for computers in a variety of languages. His breakthrough Min-speak system enables people with unintelligible speech to communicate in a functional and efficient manner. Encountering intelligent people who were physically unable to write, talk, or use hand signs, he used his classical linguistic training to create a patented visual language system based on ancient hieroglyphics. He is also the founder of nonprofit Support Helps Others Use Technology (SHOUT), with a mission to study employment issues for people with significant impairments. His work has brought him recognition from many organizations. He's also an adjunct associate prof. at the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. ✷ Brother **Robert J. Green**, CFX, (M.A. '76) retired as headmaster of Malden (Mass.) Catholic High School in June. ✷ **Terese Sullivan Caccavale** (M.A. '78) recently received a Distinguished Alumna Award from the SUNY Cortland Alumni Association. Terese is the coordinator of an innovative K-12 language and French immersion program at the Holliston (Mass.) Public Schools. Next year she will assume the presidency of the National Network for Early Language Learning. She is pursuing a doctorate in language, literacy, and cultural studies at Boston Univ. ✷ **Todd Takken** (M.A. '91) is a research staff member at the IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, N.Y. With his Ph.D. in electrical engineering (Stanford '97), he holds more than a dozen U.S. patents. ✷ **Carol Fitzpatrick** (M.A. '93; M.A. Spanish '97) has retired after 37 years of teaching Spanish, French, and German in Pennsylvania public high schools. She was head of the foreign language department at Academy Park High School in Sharon Hill, Pa. Carol would love to hear from friends in the French and Spanish schools at cafitz@craftech.com. ✷ Transitional Deacon **Karl Bissinger** of Fall River, Mass., was ordained to the priesthood on July 9 in St. Mary's Cathedral. ✷ **Heather Harter** (M.A. '05) is a language teacher in the Craftsbury, Vt., school system.

Italian

In a ceremony at the St. Francis Yacht Club in San Francisco, Tomales High School language teacher **Cathy Burton** ('94, '97) has been awarded the Knight of the Order of the Star of Italian Solidarity by the president of the Republic of Italy. She started the Italian language program at Tomales High School in 1995 and initiated an Italian exchange program in 1998.

Spanish

Dan Ritter (M.A. '58) recently published *A.K.A. God: Faith and Flexibility, the Strongest Bond* (available through www.xlibris.com/ritter[2] or through Amazon.com). Dan writes: "To summarize all too briefly, it contends that the Old Testament is sometimes great literature but as religious premise it has been and continues to be counterproductive." ✷ After 44 years of teaching (elementary, secondary, undergraduate, and graduate levels), **Bruce Fryer** (M.A. '66) is retiring December 31, 2005. For the last 35 years, he has been teaching in the department of languages, literatures, and cultures at the Univ. of S.C. in Columbia. Bruce is the co-author of a red text of advanced business Spanish, *Exito Commercial,* which recently appeared in its fourth edition (Heinle/Thomson Publishers). He writes: "In January, I plan to continue teaching as an adjunct at the Univ. of S.C., Beaufort, where my wife and I have retired, and where a separate four-year campus has recently been established." ✷ **Margarita Benitez** (M.A. '71) has joined the Institute for Higher Education Policy as senior associate. She's directing the BEAMS (Building Engagement and Attainment in Minority Students) project, working with more than 100 students. ✷ **Robert Britto** (M.A. '77) is the new superintendent of schools in Baldwin, N.Y. ✷ **Lisa Gallo** (M.A. '85) is happy to announce the adoption of daughter Elizabeth Ann from Guatemala in October 2004. ✷ Ordained to the priesthood last May was the Rev. **Augustus C. Puleo** (M.A. '85). ✷ After completing her 11th year at Menlo School in Atherton, Calif., **Janet Tennyson** (M.A. '95) is taking a sabbatical during the 2005–2006 school year in Barcelona, Spain. ✷ **Carol Fitzpatrick** (M.A. '97; M.A. French '93) would love to hear from friends in the Spanish and French schools at cafitz@craftech.com. For news of her retirement, please refer to the French School news. ✷ The marriage of **Allison Oquendo** ('02, '03) and Andrés Lopez took place on November 27, 2004, in Mexico City, Mexico. They live in Pittsburgh, where Andrés does research in cancer immunotherapy at the Hillman Cancer Center.

April 19. They are all enjoying their new home and new life in Brunswick, Maine. ✷ Anne and **Rob Birdsong** celebrated the birth of son Wyatt Oliver on April 25. Then, a few weeks later, on June 12, they celebrated Rob's 30th birthday with friends in Denver! ✷ Scott and **Meredith DuBarry Huston** were thrilled to welcome their first child, daughter Shaw Pennock, on June 5. ✷ Humberto Garcia-Sjogrim and **Lucie Ide** are proud to announce the arrival of their son, Sandro Luis Lennart Garcia-Ide. Born in Guatemala on September 29, 2003, he arrived in Atlanta on May 12, 2005.

—Class Secretaries: *Jocelyn Nill Beni (jocelyn_nill@yahoo.com), P.O. Box 3285, Nantucket, MA 02584; and Jacklyn Pelton Hoglund (jackiehoglund@comcast.net), 103 Huron Cir., Dorchester, MA 02124.*

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Kimberly Flores Airasian was awarded a juris doctor degree at Suffolk Univ. on May 22. Kim and husband Robert have been living in Watertown, Mass. ✷ **Melissa Barker** has taken over head coaching duties for the soccer team at Alexander Dawson in Colorado. ✷ **Francis Pollaro** recently joined Bostick Realty as director. In his new position, he's responsible for representing tenants in the midtown market. ✷ **Hilary Decker Sinnamon** e-mailed in June: "Ben and I are in Delhi right now, heading up north tonight for a few weeks of trekking, then to Yunnan province in China for some kayaking and exploring. We just came from a week of wedding events in Zanzibar with **Stephi Hill** and Saleh Said. They had the most incredible Muslim ceremony on Thursday and then a beautiful beach American wedding on Saturday." Midd friends celebrating with Stephi and Saleh on June 4 included **Ryan Goldman**, Emily Friedberg '00, **AJ Poor Murphy**, and Hilary. ✷ **Colin** and Shayla Schneider '99 **O'Neil** welcomed daughter Sophie Caroline into the world on June 3. The O'Neils moved to NYC following Colin's graduation from Duke University's Fuqua School of Business. ✷ Happy fall, Class of 1998! Remember the crisp, sunny, fall days at Middlebury, surrounded by the Vermont fall colors! Please send/call us with more Midd notes updates!

—Class Secretaries: *Nate Johnson (nate_johnson@mac.com), 1429 Inwood Ct., Campbell, CA 95008; and Katie Whittlesey Comstock (katie.comstock@staubach.com), 1513 N. Hinman Ave., #3S, Evanston, IL 60201.*

99

Thaya Brook has moved to Washington to become an associate at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr: "After graduating from the Univ. of Mich. Law School in December, I spent seven wonderful weeks traveling around the world with two law school friends. After a brief trip home, I was off to Accra, Ghana, volunteering with the UNHCR for two and a half months." ✷ **Jeff Sturges** got his master's in architecture from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., in May. While a student, one assignment involved finding ways in which design might bring

about change. According to the Detroit newspapers, he ended up doing some positive transformation in the Highland Park area by lighting up a historic building, designing and installing a steel logo, and co-hosting a community potluck that looks to become an annual event. ✷ While **Adam Sobek** is writing his dissertation, **Amy Schildgen Sobek** is busy chasing their three little boys around. Son Isaac arrived on September 8, 2004, joining brothers Cedar (3) and Sage (b. February 2003). The Sobeks live in Salt Lake City. ✷ While working as a lawyer in the child welfare unit of the City Solicitor's Office of Philadelphia, **Laurie Manus** has started a side job of training beginner runners. Laurie reports that **Allison Peel** and **Amy Dong** recently came to Philadelphia to enjoy Laurie's walking tour of the city. Allison, Laurie, and **Kerri Noto** then reunited on the Eastern Shore of Maryland the following weekend for the wedding of Allison's sister, Amanda, and Todd Crowley, the younger brother of Bob Crowley '94. ✷ **Greg Parent** has been the host of numerous gatherings at his Wilmington, Vt., home, where frequent attendees enjoying the hot tub are **Sara Doniger**, **Adam Burns**, and **Chris Morosky**. Adam is enjoying both his new apartment and his job with the D.A. in NYC. Chris is starting his second year of ob-gyn training in Connecticut. **Brendan O'Donohoe** and **Bill Coddington**, who made it to New York in May, joined Adam and Chris is some merriment. Andrew Dixon '98 was also on hand. ✷ Working for the Conservation Law Foundation in Boston for the summer, **Joe Kraft** was spotted in Beacon Hill with **Brad Maxwell** and **Peter Steinberg**. Brad still works for Ropes and Grey, while Pete is heading back to Dartmouth for four years of urology training. Brad and wife Susie Church Maxwell '97 recently welcomed second child Peter Maxwell into the world. We expect to see him in the Midd class of 2027 notes! ✷ **Liz Cassidy** continues her whirlwind travels from NYC. In Seattle, she and **Robby Levy** both visited **John** and Ann Russell '01 **Felton**. Cass had big Labor Day plans in Vail, where Robby and John were also to be in attendance. Robby Levy spent the summer lifting weights and working for a small investment firm. ✷ **Deana Becker** sends best wishes from San Francisco. She denies rumors of being spotted in Brookline, Mass. ✷ **Jeanne Restivo Jacoby** and her husband have moved to Quechee, Vt., where Jeanne is enjoying her work as a nurse practitioner. ✷ **Chris Lindstrom**, wife Abby Haber '01, and faithful dog Bob are moving back to Boston. (Perfect timing to avoid the departure of your faithful class secretary, Pete.) ✷ Meanwhile, secretary Melissa has a new position (still with Kmart) as director of field and in-store marketing. While I'm sad to leave kmart.com marketing behind, this new opportunity is exposing me to new marketing situations and initiatives that will provide a lot of career growth. My sexiest project is working with the crew at Martha Stewart to integrate Martha Stewart Everyday product (Kmart's proprietary brand) into Martha's upcoming TV shows. I'm on the road two days a week in our Manhattan office, but by moving to the new headquarters, I eliminate an additional day or two on the road there. I'm also leaving behind life in a house. It's been an interesting experience to have a front yard, a back yard, a driveway, and a garage, but ultimately I decided that houses (and the suburbs they are usually in) are not something I'm compatible with, for now anyway. So I've rented a 1500-square foot apartment just north of the Loop. It's at the base of Lincoln Park, just a few blocks from the lake, and about a mile from Wrigley. Chicago is a fabulous place to visit, so come see me! I'd love to have you. Let me know what's going on in your lives when you get a chance. I hope all is well and that you are happy and healthy!

—Class Secretaries: *Melissa Pruessing (pruessing99@alumni@middlebury.edu), 1500 N. LaSalle Dr., #6A, Chicago, IL 60610; and Peter Steinberg (captfun99@yahoo.com), 271 Dartmouth St., #1D, Boston, MA 02116.*

00

Amanda O'Keefe Murchison and husband Gerry spent a joyous week in Germany celebrating the March 23, 2005, wedding of **Carina Beyer** and Christian Bellmann. Stefanie Beyer '02, Carina, and Amanda had a wonderful time together and are looking forward to their next visit in the States. After returning home, Amanda and Gerry finally moved into their new home with labs Daisy, Delta, and Dixon! ✷ After living in five different cities in five years, **Alison Stoll** (alison_p_baker@yahoo.com) is finally settling down in Greenwich, Conn., with fiancé Scott Baker. Alison planned to leave her job as the national legislative coordinator for Farm Sanctuary, a nonprofit animal protection organization, to attend law school this fall. ✷ **Michael Baumgardner** is the new assistant director of residence life at SUNY at Plattsburgh. He had been serving as area coordinator and managing three residence halls at Castleton State College. He earned his M.A. in higher education from Columbia in 2003. ✷ Jani Heikkonen '97, Jon Hanlon '93, Val O'Hearn '02, Tom Hale '01, **Jeffrey Jezierski**, Ben Kraines '04, and **Allison Moore** all celebrated with **Lindsay Simpson** for her going away/birthday party this summer. "I'm teaching social studies in a middle school in Durango, Mexico, for two years. If anyone finds themselves in Cabo, let me know and we'll get after it."

—Class Secretaries: *Lindsay Simpson (simpsonlindsay@yahoo.com), 43 Stowe St., #1, Waterbury, VT 05676; and David Babington (davidbabington@yahoo.com), 552 W. 146th St., #17, New York, NY 10031.*

01

REUNION CLASS

Ruth Howell returned in June from a four-month tour looking at marine conservation issues in Chile, China, India, and Scandinavia. This fall, she's moving to Seattle to begin a master's in marine affairs at the Univ. of Wash. She was in Albany, N.Y., to attend **Lisa Engelstein**'s wedding. Lisa's Ahava (Hebrew for love) Ceremony took place on June 11, when she married Matt Cerrato in a wonderfully personal ceremony officiated by Rabbi David Edleson (Dean of Cook Commons). **Jennie Mandeville Harrington** and Ruth Howell were "goddesses" (bridesmaids); other Middlebury folk attending included **Mark Harrington**, **Ariel Diggory**, and Cook Commons Coordinator Amy Knapp and family. Jennie and Mark were married on August 7, 2004, in Lynnfield, Mass. In a recent visit to Boston, Ruth got together with Jennie, **Rifat Hasan**, and **Kate Klapfish**. ✷ **Jason Ienner** was putting the finishing touches on *How to Save a Life*, the debut album due out in September from the band he manages called The Fray. Look for their single, *Over My Head (Cable Car)*, on iTunes. ✷ **Ryan Klinghoffer**, **Dana Stringer**, **Brad Pryba**, and **Justin Fernandes** spent the July 4 weekend at **Dan Deroo**'s parents' summer house on Port Bay, N.Y. ✷ **Emily Baker** is the artist for the admission's office poster at Middlebury this year. ✷ **Meegan Moszynski** lives in Jackson, Wyo., with her chocolate lab puppy. ✷ **Lydie Hudson** spent her summer in Minneapolis, working for Procter and Gamble. ✷ **Jessica Fields** got her doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in June. ✷ After studying at Middlebury Spanish School in summer 2004 and working at the French Consulate in Boston, **Tom Keon** is now an editor for a small, foreign-language textbook publisher in Boston. ✷ In July, **Amanda Birns Roth** left her job as special events manager at Hermes to become communications manager at Van Cleef and Arpels. She continues to live in NYC with husband Mark. ✷ **Garrett Dodge** moved from NYC to Boston to start a job in business development with Celent Consulting. He moved into an apartment in the Back Bay with **Dan McNamara**. On the way up to Boston, he made a quick stop in Beijing to visit **Tom Santoro**. **Elisabeth Padgett** also happened to be there visiting and the three went to the Great Wall. ✷ **Chris Cheang** moved to Shanghai in July to work for the Cabot Corporation. He began working at their corporate headquarters in Boston in May and now, in China, he's working in corporate planning and development while improving communication between the two offices. ✷ **Jason Toh** is an assistant curator with the Singapore History Museum (which will be renamed the National Museum of Singapore in 2006): "I was hired to do 19th-century colonial Singapore history for the new exhibits at the new National Museum building project, but I've been asked to take up the photography portfolio as well." Jason took a work trip to India and Kazakhstan, and was going to London for a short course on photography in July. ✷ Now living in Bagram, Afghanistan, **Joshua Broder** is looking forward to going back to Germany in the spring and then back to the U.S. next summer. ✷ Many classmates can be found in California now: **Brian Nickel** moved to San Diego, **Megan Olson** is in the Bay area (see below), **Amie Fernandez** lives in Los Angeles, and **John Goldsmith** is in San Francisco. **Jackie Spring**, who also calls California home, recently made a trip back East. ✷ In San Francisco, Megan Olson received a doctor of dental surgery degree with highest honors from Univ. of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry, in June. She will practice general dentistry with her father Dr. James Olson in Berkeley. ✷ **Blair Sly** is director of operations for the Japan Samurai Bears, a minor league baseball team playing in California and Arizona. Composed solely of Japanese players, the Bears are a team in the Golden Baseball League, the brainchild of two Stanford MBAs. They needed someone who was fluent in Japanese and also knows baseball, so Blair was perfect for the job. Growing up in Oakland as a fan of the Oakland A's, Blair did his Midd degree in Japanese and spent three years working in Japan. ✷ **Alexandra Fay** is a fifth-grade teacher at the East Palo Alto Charter School, where she has a "totally Midd-decorated classroom" and is doing everything she can to get the kids excited about going to college. "It is really exciting how *college first* this school is and how Midd is taking a real presence! I feel so lucky to have attended Midd and now I feel very proud to represent it every day in my classroom!"

—Class Secretaries: *Leslie Fox Arnould (lesliefox01@alumni.middlebury.edu), 1 Emerson Pl., #5A, Boston, MA 02114; and Michael Hartt (hartt@alumni.middlebury.edu), 616 N. Oxford St., Arlington, VA 22203.*

02

Cori Loew has been participating in a Univ. of Louisville program called Teach Kentucky, providing her the opportunity to teach in the Louisville area and earn an M.A. in teaching at the same time. Upon completion of her degree in spring 2005, she was also selected as Outstanding Student in Middle Grades Education. ✷ **Anna Schecter** recently relocated to NYC, after studying in Paris and Israel. She would love to hear from friends at annaschecter@hotmail.com. ✷ After a year at Goucher College, **Julia Bergofsky** is the new head lacrosse coach at Wellesley College. ✷ A second-year law student at Chicago-Kent College of Law, **Andrew Strong** spent most of the summer as part of the defense team defending former Kosovo Prime Minister Haradinaj against charges that he violated international humanitarian law while he was a commander of the Kosovo Liberation Army. Andrew received academic credit for his work under a "Rule of Law Externship," which provides the opportunity for Chicago-Kent students to get involved in practical legal activities associated with nation-building and international interventions in post-conflict and transition societies.

—Class Secretaries: *Anne Alfano (aalfano2000@yahoo.com), 258 W. 15th St., #2RE, New York, NY 10011; and Stephen Messinger (s.messing@gmail.com), 166 High St., Danvers, MA 01923.*

03

It's been marathon madness for our class. **Marty Wesolowski** ran Los Angeles, **Simon Isaacs** ran one in Maine and then Boston, **Mike Mazzotta** ran one in Montana, and **Sarah Logan** ran Big Sur. Any others? ✷ **Celia Dalton-Meyer** is having fun studying children's hygiene and sanitation education in Benin, but she says she misses the snows of Vermont! ✷ Last June, **Diana Kurkovsky** received an M.A. in the history of art from Williams College. ✷ **Carl Larson** has a program assistant position with Save the River in Watertown, N.Y. In addition to working to stop winter commercial navigation on the St. Lawrence River, the organization monitors water quality and works to restore threatened species in the Thousand Islands. ✷ **Somerville Johnston** and J.P. Bevilaqua were married on October 2, 2004. Congratulations! The Bevilaquas are living in Colorado, where they are both working as outdoor educators.

—Class Secretaries: *Meagan Dodge (mdodge@alumni.middlebury.edu), 6501 Francis St. N., Seattle, WA 98103; and Ulises Zanello (uzanello@citi-habitats.com), 64-49 Shaler Ave., Ridgewood, NY 11385.*

04

Secretary Herwood reports: **Mike Burke** is working at the Analysis Group in Boston with Pavel and **Khurram Jamali**. ✷ Elsewhere, **Gabe Real De Azua** is moving in with **Raj Mathur** in D.C. Gabe is working at the Atlantic Council and Raj continues to enjoy life at the IMF. ✷ Back in NYC, **Kati-Diana Madouros** got a new job at HBO, while **Courtney Campbell** started working at the Bare Naked granola company—so next time you want granola, buy Bare Naked. ✷ In other New York concerns, **Colin Apple**, **Ethan Pond**, **Chris Grant**, **Colin Dixon**, **Charlie Zabriskie**, **John Dorazio**, and **Britt Cosgrove** all attended the Belmont Stakes. We learned that Colin Dixon won $110, while the rest of the group ended the day in the red. Later, Colin Apple unfortunately broke his ankle while playing soccer, but was still sighted on the Upper East Side with **Amanda Tompkins**, strapping a surfboard to the roof of their car outside their apartment. Luckily **Libby Meyers** (who is teaching kindergarten at Buckley) passed by and came to the rescue. Apple was actually using **Tom Molnar**'s crutches, because in another unfortunate accident, Molnar was run over by a bike in Central Park and sustained a relatively serious injury to his ankle. ✷ **Michaela Dietz** moved to Dallas, pursuing her acting career. ✷ Former roommates **Amanda Pullins** and **Megan McElroy** reported having a lot of fun with the Craigslist search process for finding a new roommate. ✷ Elsewhere, **Alex Burr** was moving to beautiful New Haven, Conn., to pursue a degree in architecture at Yale. ✷ **Sara Sharkey** reported she and Todd Falcone '03 attended the June wedding of Molly FitzGerald '03 and H. Timothy Perry '03 in beautiful Louisville, Ky., along with a number of Middlebury grads. Todd and Sara also visited **Lynsey Waite** in her new Cape Elizabeth, Maine, home, where they had a little rendezvous with **Cory Lowe**, **Dana Allen**, Kristina Rudd '03, Char Foss '03, Xan Williams '03, and **Trevor Smith**. ✷ **Andy Peters**, Green Mountain Valley School soccer and skiing coach, was co-director of the Vermont Team Soccer Camp this summer. The camp staff also included Ben Hardy '99 and Simon Perkins '05.

—Class Secretaries: *Julia Herwood (jherwood@alumni.middlebury.edu), 235 E. 95th St., #25J, New York, NY 10128; and Athenia Fischer (princess1328@yahoo.com), 254 Stagg St., Brooklyn, NY 11206.*

At last count, five marathons were completed by the Class of 2003. Have we missed anybody?

05

Dena Simmons worked for a federal agency this summer before heading abroad to research teenage pregnancy and public health education in the Dominican Republic as a Fulbright Scholar. She welcomes visitors. While living in D.C., Dena ran into a trillion Middkids. Okay, maybe that's an exaggeration, but you could always count on seeing a familiar Middlebury face or some Middlebury paraphernalia in D.C.—and in all parts of the world, actually. While sitting at Dupont Circle over the summer, Dena spotted **Brian Reavey** and **Mike Gaughan** and flagged them down. Midds working in D.C. include **Yvonne Chen**, **Secil Ozturk**, and **Kathryn Boateng**. **Ed Francis** is interning at a study abroad agency that runs trips to China. Others Dena saw this summer were Shimrit Paley '06, Leigh Arsenault '06, Jessica Harrison '04, Madiha Tariq '04, and Ron Somers '76. Erwin Alberty '04 and Dena clubbed it up NYC style in D.C. as well. ✷ **Christina Tolbert** celebrated her 21st birthday in NYC in June. Over 30 Middlebury alumni and students gathered "to bend over to the floor and touch [their] toes" at dance club Mad 2112. Living in Boston, Christina is a tour consultant at EF Education by day and a geek by night at Harvard's pre-med program. She's living with **Lauren Wollin** and **Katrina Uhl**. **Denise Leung** and **Evan Holden** are both studying law at Northeastern Univ. and Boston College, respectively. Denise and **Martha Dutton** are reliving their freshman year as roommates once again in Boston. Martha is working at a consulting firm and thus spends much of her time in airport security lines or on airplanes. **Emma Smith** loves life in her apartment near Fenway and works at Charles River Associates, along with **Pat Zomer**. Pat lives with **Brad Myers** in the North End; nearby are **Dave Riester** and **J.P. O'Reilly**. **Lia Lopez** welcomes visitors at her recently renovated Back Bay condo. **Emily Loesche** lives in Allston with Lisa McAndrews '02. Also in the Boston area are **Emily Donnan**, **Lauren Ready**, **Laura Eckelman**, **Mike Lin**, and **Sarah McCabe**. ✷ There is a similarly large Midd '05 contingency in NYC, where **India Mandelkern** is a paralegal and **Erich Kahner** teaches math for the NYC Teaching Fellows Program. Also in the area are **Eric Fraser**, **Tom Stults**, **Lauren Clark**, **Meenah Park**, **Lucia Stoller**, **Allison Beck**, **Sara Hayes**, **Rev Avasarala**, **Rob Barberi**, **Emily Berlanstein**, **Catherine Foster**, **Lyon Carter**, **Andrew Jacobi**, **Mike Murray**, **Clare O'Reilly**, **Kim Quicksilver**, **Laura Robinson**, **Betsy Sullivan**, and **Mike Vilarello**. ✷ This summer, **Tina Velez** and **Lindsey Whitton** were at Teach For America's five-week boot camp in Philadelphia before starting their two-year commitment to teach in NYC. ✷ In New Haven, **Alexis Kearney** and **Ed Pickering** are both graduate students at Yale University. Alexis is studying public health, while Ed is pursuing his Ph.D. in English. ✷ **Patricia Kim** is at the Univ. of Chicago studying podiatry. ✷ **Keith Case** is working at Scott Simons Architects in Portland, Maine. ✷ Several of our classmates have headed abroad. **Pieter Nijnens** works in London for Jim Robinson '84. **Chelsea Coffin**, **Lizzie Monk**, and **Julia Randall** are members of the Peace Corps in Africa, where **Brian Fink** is also working. **Andre Estanislao** is a social education instructor in Japan; **Jake Nicholson** is living in Thailand; **Avery Hill** is teaching English and taking classes in Germany as a Fulbright Scholar. ✷ Back in Middlebury, **Katy Ramsey** is working in the admissions office, where she shares an office with **Scott Palmer**, **Namik Kirlic**, and Jenny Harris '04. "We all start our fall travel in a few weeks so we'll be spread out all over the country." Katy also informs us that "Scott Palmer was a proud participant in the Addison County Fair Days Demolition Derby this summer. He drove **Jay Wolfgram**'s 1982 Ford Escort and came in fourth in his heat of four-cylinder cars. It was really quite an unbelievable performance, especially given that it was his first time in a demolition derby." ✷ One week after graduation, **Anjelika Parenjpe** began working as assistant to the president at the Vermont Studio Center in Johnson, Vt. She spent the summer preparing for her first solo exhibition at the Red Mill Gallery there. She reports that she has enjoyed her time at the center immensely, particularly appreciating the joys of having her own large studio and being around so many inspirational fellow artists. ✷ Dena and Martha look forward to hearing from you, and congratulations again! We did it, class of 2005!

—Class Secretaries: *Martha Dutton (martha.dutton@gmail.com), 175 Beacon St., #307, Somerville, MA 02143; and Dena Simmons (dena.simmons@gmail.com).*

Continued from page 15

Emerson would have shuddered. If the national move is toward a study of individual cultures, then why change the very focus of Middlebury's American literature department by merging it with English and reinventing American studies as apparently little more than a linguistic hiccup?

The virtue of an American literature department is that it provides students with an intensive study of American literature. When they graduate, they will know a lot about one area rather than a little about a lot of areas. We live in a watered-down world where our commitment to community service, quality workmanship, and knowledge for its own enjoyment no longer exists. To eliminate the American literature department at Middlebury will discourage students from sharing in a spirit of disciplined commitment to our national literary culture, for which those at Middlebury have always shared, in Robert Frost's phrase, "a passionate preference."

Jeffrey Walker, M.A. English '71
Stillwater, Oklahoma

The writer is a professor in the English department at Oklahoma State University.

In Protest

I wanted to take the time to respond to the article regarding the proposed elimination of the American literature department at Middlebury College. As I ponder my approach to this topic, I find myself reflecting on all of the job interviews and personal conversations in which I was able to proudly state that I was an American literature major at Middlebury College, the only college in the country to offer a separate major for this subject matter. It is with great sadness that I must write this letter to protest the decision to merge the American literature curriculum into the English department. Further, the realization that this recommendation came from within the American literature faculty is truly disheartening.

Struggling to direct my anger on this subject into a pointed perspective, I would like to focus on a quote from Brett Millier, chairman of the Department of American Literature and Civilization in which she states, "I admire and respect my colleagues in the department, but they are more focused on the study of American culture. I'm supporting the change because I want literature to be read as literature." While my memory of my studies nearly 25 years ago has faded somewhat, to say that my Am Lit professors were focused on the study of American culture would, at best, be only partially true. But more important, I wonder how the study of literature "as literature" can possibly be undertaken without a cultural framework for understanding. To separate the study of any literature from its cultural underpinnings would seem to me to be a futile exercise and one lacking in academic value. The thought of reading William Bradford, Herman Melville, Kate Chopin, William Faulkner, Joseph Heller, Saul Bellow, Jack Kerouac, or Ralph Ellison, to name but a few, without a strong cultural perspective would not only be a devastating development for any student of literature, but especially for those students seeking a comprehensive understanding of our own national body of literature. To think that a Middlebury professor of American literature, never mind the chairman of the department, believes that the study of literature without the study of culture is an appropriate means of educating students is just a little frightening.

While I was never the best writer at Middlebury, I hope I have succeeded in adequately expressing my views on this crucial topic. I firmly oppose the recommendation to gut one of the truly unique educational opportunities in all of college academia. It is without reservation that I support the position taken by both John McWilliams and Stephen Donadio. In my eight years of college education, I can think of no finer educators than these two gentlemen. Their dedication to the fight to continue forward with a unique and separate American literature department is inspiring. It is wonderful to think that their passion for the study of American literature as a body of work, instilled in me nearly 25 years ago, still burns as brightly now as it did then. I can only hope that come decision time, the Middlebury College faculty and administration give serious consideration to the implications of eliminating the comprehensive study of American literature at the finest college in America.

Alan Wagman '82
Wayne, New Jersey

An Unfair Exchange

I have been saddened to learn that Middlebury is planning to merge the Department of American Literature and Civilization into a Department of English and American Literatures.

During my undergraduate years, I had two opportunities to take courses in American literature, one taught by Timothy Spears and the other taught by John McWilliams. Both courses represented a unique blend of literature, history, and discussions about the meaning of American culture and society. I did not find this unique approach in either the history or English departments, notwithstanding the other strengths of their respected curricula. John McWilliams made Puritanism come to life and transported our class back into the world of 17th-century New England!

Around the country, departments of American studies typically do not encourage this pedagogical approach. Moreover, a Department of English and American literatures is not likely to continue this tradition over the long term.

I have always considered Middlebury's American Literature offerings to be something special within the world of modern academia. Why should the College exchange a unique and effective heritage for a new academic fashion that might prove less durable?

John G. Turner '96
Fort Collins, Colorado

The writer is a lecturer in history at Colorado State University

Letters Policy

Letters addressing topics discussed in the magazine are given priority, though they may be edited for brevity or clarity. On any given subject we will print letters that address that subject, and then in the next issue, letters that respond to the first letters. After that, we will move on to new subjects. Send letters to: *Middlebury Magazine*, Meeker House, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753. E-mail: middmag@middlebury.edu.

23 **Helen Abel Brown**, 103, of Raleigh, N.C., on July 13, 2005. With a master's in Spanish (Middlebury, 1930), she taught in Freeport, Long Island, and in Puebla, Mexico. After earning a degree in library science (Univ. of Mich., 1935), she was head librarian at Russell Sage College (Troy, N.Y.) and then head librarian of St. Mary's College in Raleigh (1937-1971). In retirement, she taught classes in English as a second language for 10 years and read poetry for a radio reading service for the visually impaired. She attended her 75th Middlebury reunion in 1998, at the age of 96. Predeceased by husband Harlan C. Brown in 1982, she leaves friend Elizabeth Libero and her husband's two nieces and a nephew.

Orville T. Sincerbox, 104, of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, on July 15, 2005. Beginning his business career in Boston in 1924, he moved to Canada in 1929 to become manager of the Fort William, Ontario, S.S. Kresge store. Moving to the Hamilton store in 1939, he was the manager there in 1950 when Kresge's opened a new store, then known as Canada's largest, most modern, single-floor variety store. He retired in 1967. He was predeceased by his wife of 71 years, Iva Marie Sincerbox, in October 2003; and by brother Ralph E. Sincerbox '20 in 1985. Survivors include daughter Mary Norton and granddaughter Linda Norton.

26 **Helen Durick Mangan**, 99, of Cranston, R.I., on June 4, 2005. She taught French in the Richmond and Fair Haven, Vt., school systems until her marriage in 1937. In 1958 she began a career as head of the modern language department at Rutland High School. She earned a Middlebury master's in French (1963) and taught French until retiring in 1971. Predeceased by husband Thomas F. Mangan in 1968, she leaves daughters Margaret Angelone and Juliana Mangan, and four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

31 **Nathalie Lewis Emery**, 95, of Chambersburg, Pa., on August 10, 2005. She taught high school French and Latin in Athens, N.Y., for several years. Her interests included DAR, garden club, and art history. She was predeceased by first husband Cornelius P. Brink '31 in 1981 and by second husband George F. Emery '32 in 1996. She leaves daughter Pamela Sloan, son John H. Brink, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. Surviving Middlebury relatives include nephew Frederick W. Brink Jr. '63 and cousins Faith Kellogg Dailey '33 and Leila Goodrich Tupman '56. Deceased Middlebury relatives include brother-in-law Frederick W. Brink '33 and cousins Eleanor Good Sanborn '46 and Warren G. Goodrich '33.

34 **Ruth Hanchett Hutton**, 93, of Wilton, Conn., on June 6, 2005. After raising her family, she trained to become a tutor for children with learning disabilities. She also taught at Ten Acre Country Day School in Wellesley. Retiring to Dennis, Mass., in 1974, she was active in the First Parish Unitarian Church in Brewster. She was predeceased by husband J. Wilbert Hutton '34, sister Margery Hanchett Woodside '35, brother Dana W. Hanchett '41, aunt Ethel Thompson Barlow (1903), cousin Miriam Smith Hickcox '35, and nephew J. Douglas Harper '71 (M.A. English '74). Survivors include sons James D. Hutton '60 and Bruce Hutton, daughter Heidi Williams, sister Lois Hanchett Harper '44, 10 grandchildren (including Wendy Williams Davis '90), cousin Jonathan W. Reynolds '70, and several great-grandchildren.

Margaret Smith Thrasher, 92, of Frederick, Md., on June 17, 2005. On the day after graduation, Middlebury President Moody officiated at her marriage to Charles E. Thrasher '32. An active mother and homemaker in Rochester, N.Y., she entertained her husband's international contacts at Eastman Kodak and they traveled overseas extensively. Predeceased by her husband in 1987, she leaves daughter Carolyn Thrasher Weh '59, sons Douglas and Richard Thrasher, seven grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

35 **Avis E. Fischer**, 91, of Bensalem, Pa., on August 25, 2005. With her M.A in French (Middlebury '42), she taught French until 1952 at various schools in Brooklyn and New York City. After working in the insurance business in Atlanta for five years, she taught French in the Frederick, Md., school system until 1974. From 1974 until 1982, she taught and did administrative work at Hood College. She coordinated the junior year abroad program at Hood, was also active in the American Field Service exchange program, and traveled extensively. Predeceased by sister Ruth Fischer Tuthill in 2004 and by brother-in-law Herbert T. Ellison '37 in 1995, she leaves sister Virginia Fischer Ellison '38 and several nieces and nephews. Middlebury cousins include Mary Lupton Goodale '40 and the late Doris Orth Pike '44.

36 **Frances Wilkinson Russ**, 91, of Bedford, N.H., on June 7, 2005. She and husband Alfred Russ purchased a farm near Peterborough, N.H., in 1947. Although her husband returned to industry in the mid-1950s, they continued to enjoy the rural life. She worked 10 years in the Peterborough Library, took courses offered by the New Hampshire State Library, and served as trustee of the Hancock Library. In 1988, they moved to an apartment in Concord. A son, Bayard Russ '66, was killed in action in Vietnam in 1968. Her husband died in July 2003. Survivors include son Robert Russ, daughter Priscilla Malcolm, five grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

37 **Gladys L. Caldroney**, 88, of Roseville, Mich., on July 4, 2005. After working as a laboratory technologist at the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, she served in the Women's Army Corps from 1943 to 1946. She earned an M.S. in medical technology (Wayne State, 1948) and became section head of the clinical bacteriology laboratory of the Children's Hospital of Michigan. She leaves brother Thomas W. Caldroney '45, sister Ruth Caldroney Allen '48, and brother-in-law John D. Allen '50.

Marion Gerling Church, 90, of South Glens Falls, N.Y., on July 23, 2005. She did graduate work at SUNY at Albany and Plattsburgh, and at Union College in Schenectady. After teaching mathematics at Old Forge, N.Y., she was a business office supervisor for New York Telephone, and continued to teach mathematics at Lake George High School from 1959 until 1977. She was predeceased by husband C. William Church in 1965 and by son Ronald S. Church in 1992.

Margaret Scherholz Delfausse, 88, of Middlebury, Vt., and Warsaw, Poland, on May 26, 2005. For many years, she was co-owner (with former husband Pierre) of the A.H. Delfausse Company, toys and sporting goods, at 200 Fifth Avenue, in NYC. She studied graphology and psychology and worked on promotions for Lord & Taylor and *Mademoiselle* magazine. After earning a master's in fund-raising management from the New School of Social Research, she worked for the Staten Island Children's Museum and later the Glenwood Springs (Colo.) Arts Council. Continuing to work into her late 70s, she was also active in several charitable causes in Colorado, New Jersey, and NYC. In 2002, she received the Alumni Association's highest award for her "outstanding service to the College." Survivors include daughter Abigail W. Delfausse '72, son Peter B. Delfausse '65, daughter-in-law Olivia Hall Delfausse '66, sister Elizabeth Scherholz Pell '43, sister-in-law Margherita Cosenza Moore '37, and two grandchildren, Pierre Delfausse '93 and Sarah.

39 **Robert W. Lord**, 87, of New York, N.Y., on February 21, 2005. A writer and editor, he worked on trade journals covering the insurance and welfare benefits business. As a descendant of a Revolutionary War veteran and four veterans of the Civil War, he launched a private campaign that led to the restoration four years ago of the statue of Civil War hero General Philip Sheridan in Christopher Park. Survivors include wife Barbara (Joanni), daughter Rowena Soteros, sons Robert Jr. and Richard Lord, and a granddaughter.

40 **Elaine Nickerson Derick**, 86, of Mount Dora, Fla., on May 23, 2005. During World War II, she worked in the blueprint and engineering department of the Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, R.I. A high school English and Latin teacher in upstate New York and Yarmouth, Mass., she retired from Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School in 1974 and moved to Mount Dora in 1975. An avid reader, she volunteered in a tutor-mentoring program in Florida. Predeceased by husbands James Derick and Barney Rucho and by son William Derick, she leaves son Scott E. Derick and two grandchildren.

Charles M. English, 86, of Raymond, Maine, on August 9, 2005. With an M.A. in French (Univ. of Wis., 1941) he was drafted in 1942 before completion of his doctorate in linguistics. After serving as a signal corps officer (1942–1947) in the U.S., Algeria, and Italy, he worked with the CIA (1947–1977). He was a Serbo-Croatian interpreter in Belgrade; his assignments in Germany included five years with Radio Liberty and seven years as director of the U.S. defector program in Frankfurt and Munich. In 1979, he was awarded the CIA Career Intelligence Medal for work in language-related activities. He was qualified in 11 languages. After his retirement in 1977, he and wife Marjorie (Wadsworth) were involved in many volunteer activities and both were active in the United Church of Christ. Besides his wife of 55 years, he is survived by daughter Cathryn, sons Ralph and Charles Jr., five grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter.

Edward J. Langey, 87, of Cheshire, Conn., on October 23, 2004. With an M.S. in geology (Johns Hopkins Univ. '47) and a Ph.D. in geology (Syracuse Univ. '53), he worked as a mining engineer before serving on a Navy Tanker in the Pacific (1944–46). He then taught geology at Colby College and at Syracuse Univ., while continuing part-time field work for several mining companies and the U.S. Geological Survey. Resuming work as

a geologist for Allied Chemical Corp., he went on to work for Amax Inc. (1955–1981), examining and evaluating mining properties worldwide. He was predeceased by wife Jane Giblin Langey '42 in 2000. Survivors include son Michael Langey, daughters Jill Stovall and Margaret Severson, and two grandsons.

Donald T. Spore, 88, of Melbourne, Fla., on June 27, 2005. A 1943 graduate of Tufts Dental School, he entered the Navy and served as a lieutenant until 1945. A 50-year member of the Rotary Club, he practiced dentistry in Cocoa, Fla., until retiring in 1987. Predeceased by wife Merry (Boggs), he leaves daughters Della Cox and Clara Schneider, five grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

Miriam H. Tifft, 87, of Dorset, Vt., on July 9, 2005. An employee of the Dorset Inn for more than 30 years, she wrote articles for the *Bennington Banner*, the *Manchester Journal*, and the *Rutland Herald*. She was also the author of *My Dorset* (Dorset Historical Society, 1997). Survivors include several cousins.

41 **Elsa Norgaard Cullen**, 86, of Bloomfield, Conn., on August 29, 2005. A longtime resident of West Hartford, she moved to Seabury Retirement Community in Bloomfield a few years ago. After working as a film librarian at Aetna Life and Casualty in Hartford, she joined the WAVES (women's arm of the Navy) during World War II. She was trained to encode and decode messages relating to the routing of convoys across the North Atlantic. In Hartford, she was an active member of the Quaker Meeting, worked on a variety of social causes, and became a certified reading instructor at Renbrook School. Predeceased by husband Paul Cullen, she leaves daughters Judith Cullen Friede '70 and Deborah Cullen, son Jeffrey Cullen '73, and four grandchildren.

43 **Peter N. Bohn**, 85, of Lewes, Del., on January 22, 2005. A former resident of Wynnewood, Pa., and of Cape May, N.J., his career was in management consulting. Predeceased by daughter Marcia, he leaves wife Barbara (Dean); son Peter N. Bohn Jr.; daughters Deirdre Cleff, Clare Bohn, and Sara Phillips; and eight grandchildren.

Russell P. Dale Jr., 85, of Warehouse Point, Conn., on August 10, 2005. During World War II, he served in the Army Air Corps glider program. He was president of the former Dale Brothers Laundries Inc. (1948–1977) and worked for Warehouse Point Industries Inc. (1977-1997). In his longtime community of Longmeadow, Mass., he served in positions of leadership for the First Church of Christ, the Rotary Club, the YMCA, and many town committees. Survivors include wife Margaret (Dounce) '43; daughters Margaret Dale '68, Nancy Dale, and Susan Dale '73; sister Mary Frisbie; brother David Dale '50; sister-in-law Mary Krum Dale '51; several nieces and nephews, including Amy Dale '78 and John F. Dale '80; and cousins Margaret Goodell Hunt '42 and David T. Goodell '40. He was predeceased by father Russell P. Dale (1911), mother Jennie McLellan Dale (1911), sister Jane Dale '39, and several Middlebury cousins.

John Kalajian, 83, of Camden, Maine (formerly of McLean, Va.), on September 30, 2004. He served in the Army Air Corps in southern Italy during World War II. After completing graduate work in journalism at Syracuse Univ., he became a reporter in New Jersey and NYC, before moving to Washington, D.C., to begin his career as an editor with the Foreign Broadcast Information Service and was soon posted to Cyprus. He served as bureau chief in Key West, Nigeria, Austria, and Paraguay. Retiring in 1977, he taught English to foreign-born children and volunteered in other capacities. Predeceased by wife Mary, he leaves son Peter Kalajian and two grandchildren.

45 **Will J. Bangs**, 81, of Carlisle, Mass., on July 4, 2005. Midway through his sophomore year at Middlebury, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps Meteorology Program. In summer 1946 he returned and graduated in 1948. After earning a law degree from the Univ. of Mich. (1953), he practiced law in Boston, first with Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and then with Choate, Hall & Stewart, where he was a litigator for 35 years, retiring in 1991. In the 1960s, he served on several Concord town committees and organized the town's bylaws. Moving to Carlisle in 1971, he was a member of the Carlisle Conservation Commission and was the impetus behind the formation of the Great Brooks State Park. Survivors include wife Judith (Lindahl), daughters Marjorie Bangs and Martha Bangs Haddad '87, and three grandchildren.

47 **Evelyn Gardner Dodd**, 78, of Mt. Dora, Fla., on August 21, 2005. With a master's in library science from Syracuse Univ., she was employed by the libraries at Cazenovia College and Colgate Univ. She also worked for a public relations firm in Washington, D.C. Survivors include husband William S. Dodd '47; sons Philip, Lawrence, and Stuart Dodd; and six grandchildren.

48 **June Yeakel Barnes**, 77, of Seattle, Wash., on July 6, 2005. An active volunteer throughout her life, she served on the Seattle Symphony board of trustees and was national president of the American Symphony Orchestra League. She is survived by husband Robert H. Barnes Jr.; daughters Julie Morrison, Debbie Blethen, and Tucker Barnes; and four grandchildren.

49 **Richard W. Hill**, 82, of Montpelier and St. Albans, Vt., on July 2, 2005. He returned to graduate after serving with the Army from 1945 until 1947. After a stint in radio broadcasting in St. Albans, he left the field as station manager in 1956. His interest in amateur radio persisted, especially restoring and operating vintage tube-type equipment. He worked for the State Vocational Rehabilitation program from 1956 until retiring as state director in 1984. In 1970, he earned a master's from Boston Univ. Predeceased by wife Esther (Bethel) in 1999, he leaves brother Donald H. Hill Jr. '50, nephew Hector D. Hill '91, and cousins Field H. Winslow '38, Eugene C. Winslow '40, Hugo J. Ratti Jr. '55, and K. Jill Winslow '77. He was predeceased by uncles Gino A. Ratti (Class of 1907), Amerigo J. Ratti (1911), Aldo A. Ratti (1915), and Hugo J. Ratti (1922).

Charles P. Puksta, 82, of Claremont, N.H., on August 28, 2005. He served in the Air Force during World War II, retiring from the reserves with the rank of lieutenant colonel in 1983. In the machine tool industry, he was a production supervisor, field engineer, and director of training for Jones and Lamson of Springfield, Vt. In Claremont, his community service included city council (26 years), mayor (16 years), school district moderator (17 years), the Connecticut River Valley Resources Commission, and the New Hampshire State Advisory Council for Vocational Technical Education. He was appointed by two presidents to the National Advisory Council on Adult Education. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Lorraine (Leocha); daughters Mary Todd and Juliana Puksta Maglathlin '77; sons Charles Jr. (Bread Loaf, '73), Stephen, Frederick, Alexander, and David Puksta; and 15 grandchildren.

54 **Denton L. Lyon**, 72, of New Haven, Vt., on June 2, 2005. With a master's in geology (Univ. of Wyoming in Laramie, 1956), he returned to Vermont to manage his father's farm in Cornwall. After acquiring a hardware store on Merchants Row in Middlebury in 1961, he opened a second hardware store in Bristol, which he operated until 1995. A selectman and volunteer fireman for the town of Cornwall, he served as a director on the board of the National Bank of Middlebury for 25 years. Predeceased by wife Ann (Blair), he is survived by sons Blair and Matthew Lyon, and daughter Elizabeth O'Neal.

56 **Robert A. Lawrence**, 71, of Weston, Conn., on May 15, 2005. A longtime resident of Summit, N.J., he moved to Weston after retiring from his career on Wall Street with Oppenheimer. He was involved in the establishment of the perpetual care fund for the Connecticut September 11 Living Memorial. Predeceased by son Robert Jr., a victim of the World Trade Center disaster, he leaves wife Eileen (Edwards), son Walter E. Lawrence, and daughter Elizabeth L. Andersen.

57 **James T. Haviland II**, 74, of Groton Long Point, Conn., on June 25, 2005. He served in the Korean conflict in the 2nd Infantry. A graduate of the Univ. of Conn. School of Law, he served as an assistant attorney general for the state of Connecticut. He was a partner with Howard, Kohn, Sprague & Fitzgerald; a solo practitioner and senior trial counsel for Rakosky, Cable & Haviland. He served in various volunteer capacities for the town of Groton. Survivors include wife Barbara (James); sons James III and Richard; daughters Mary Haviland, Elizabeth Padgett, and Anne Littlefield; and four grandchildren.

58 **Carolyn Mears Long**, 68, of Warrington, Pa., on August 19, 2005. With an M.A. in teaching (Wesleyan, 1960), she taught high school English in Madison, N.J., taught sixth grade in Waltham, Mass., edited textbooks for Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, and was a personnel training officer at the Library of Congress and for the General Services Administration. She later became a certified public accountant and worked for the Glenmede Trust Company as a VP and trust administrator until her retirement. Her community activities included leadership positions with the Doylestown branch of AAUW and the Doylestown Presbyterian Church. She leaves husband S. Hansen Long, son Stephen Long '90, daughter Cynthia Long, and brothers Walter Mears '56 and William Mears.

59 **Warren L. Lasell**, 67, of Greeley, Colo., on October 13, 2004. With a doctorate in education (Univ. of Rochester, 1969), he taught secondary school in New York and worked in the vocational and technical education fields in

Michigan and Ohio. At the Univ. of Northern Colorado, he was the coordinator of the career education project. He also worked in commercial real estate in Greeley and, in recent years, was the elected Weld County assessor. He devoted time to helping the Weld County Food Bank, LULAC (an organization helping high-risk Latino students), the First Congregational Church, and Rotary Club. Survivors include wife Catherine (Callahan), son Brendon, daughter Beth Lasell Compson '91, son-in-law Rich Compson '90, and two granddaughters.

62 **James E. Flemma**, 66, of Annapolis, Md., on July 25, 2005. He began his career in direct mail with Reader's Digest and PSA, Inc. Then he founded Mail Fund, Inc., a private lender to the direct mail industry. He recently retired as president of the company. Survivors include wife Ellen Flemma, son Saverio Benjamin Flemma, and daughters Jean Flemma Epifanio '85 and Julia Flemma. He was formerly married to Patricia Lange Flemma '62.

72 **Joseph R. McDonough**, 54, of Denville, N.J., on June 28, 2005. With a law degree from Rutgers (1978), he was an attorney associated with law firms in Morristown and Newark, N.J. A graduate of Delbarton School, he served as president of the alumni association and was honored as alumnus of the year in 1993. Survivors include daughters Catherine and Grace, and son James McDonough.

75 **Elizabeth Eastment Lockard**, 52, of Warwick, N.Y., on July 8, 2005, after a prolonged struggle with throat cancer. With a master's from SUNY New Paltz, she was a gifted linguist and taught at a number of language schools. She traveled extensively as an employee of Varig Airlines for more than 15 years. In Warwick, she volunteered for Meals on Wheels, Literacy Volunteers of America, and Winslow Therapeutic Riding. Survivors include husband Arthur Lockard, and brothers Anthony, Jeffrey, and Robert Eastment.

76 **James B. Petersen**, 51, of Williston, Vt. After studying at Middlebury (1972–1973), he graduated from UVM (1979) and received his Univ. of Pittsburgh doctorate in 1983. Joining the faculty of the Univ. of Maine at Farmington, he founded and directed the Archaeology Research Center. He accepted a position at UVM in 1997 and became chair of the anthropology department. His archaeological research included extensive work in New England, the Caribbean, and the Amazon region of Brazil. He was killed by robbers in Iranduba, Brazil. Survivors include wife Jennifer Brennan, mother Ella Noack, father James E. Petersen, a sister, two brothers, and two stepsisters. An uncle, Max Petersen, who also survives, worked at Middlebury College for three decades, retiring as director of sports information in 1991.

77 **Pamela E. Johnson**, 49, of Middlebury, Vt., on July 29, 2005, after a three-year battle with acute myelogenous leukemia. Shortly after graduation, she joined the Middlebury College staff as a computer programmer in the data processing department. Over her 25-year career as a technologist, she played an instrumental role in developing the first computerized alumni application and later the admissions and financial aid systems. Through her efforts and innovation, the College developed and supported effective applications which utilized a central constituent database. She was interested in foreign languages, was an avid reader, and played musical instruments from a young age. For the last 20 years, she had played early music in a small group of local recorder players known as the Lemon Fair Consort. Her love of learning continued throughout her life, as she took courses at her alma mater and attended intellectual and cultural offerings of every sort. Predeceased by her mother (who also died of leukemia) in 1993, she is survived by husband Christopher S. Potter, father Charles M. Johnson, sister Susan J. Smith, two nieces, a stepdaughter, and four stepgrandsons.

78 **Stephen M. Dunn**, 48, of Boulder, Colo., on August 19, 2005, of complications from meningitis. He was working in Boulder as a programmer when he was diagnosed with advanced kidney cancer in 1989. After finding an experimental treatment that was successful, he began researching cancer treatments. Becoming known for his work as an advocate for cancer patients, he created a Web site, www.cancerguide.org, to help people research their options in cancer treatment. In 2002, he received three grants allowing him to pursue his advocacy full time. In 2003, the Food and Drug Administration appointed him a patient advocate for kidney cancer clinical trials. He was co-owner of the kidney-onc listserv, a resource specific to kidney cancer. A skier, rock climber, and caver, he also hiked all of Colorado's peaks of 14,000 feet or more. Survivors include companion Kristin Swihart, daughter Shasta Swihart, sister Susan Dixon, brother Jeremy Dunn, and parents Robert and Nancy Gross Dunn.

Honorary Degree

Irena A. Dyrcz-Freeman, 95, of Gloversville, N.Y., on July 16, 2005. A graduate of the Jozefa Jotejko Teacher's College in Krakow, Poland, she taught elementary school in Czajkow, Poland. In recognition of her heroic work aiding and rescuing Jews during World War II in Poland, she received a Yad Vashem Righteous Among the Nations Honorary Diploma and Medal (1996), Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees from Siena College (1997) and Middlebury College (2000), a Certificate of Merit award from the State of New York Executive Chamber (1997), and, also in 1997, Honorary Resolutions from the State of New York Legislative Assembly, the Jewish Community of Gloversville, N.Y., and the City of Gloversville, N.Y. Her passions included Polish history, current events, American Indian affairs, and reading. A friend of the Polish Scouting Organization, she also supported the Committee for the Blind of Poland. Predeceased by husband Stephen T. Freeman and son Stanislaw M. Dyrcz-Freeman, she leaves daughters Zywia Wojnar and Dobrochna Fire, and five grandchildren, including Alina Wojnar Frye '00 and her husband, David C. Frye '98.

Staff

Erwin Atkins, 83, of Middlebury, Vt., on July 24, 2005. A College employee from 1966 until 1985, he served as stockroom supervisor in the physical plant. Survivors include wife Avis and son Harold Atkins, co-manager of the ice rink.

Roger Dragon, 69, of Ripton, Vt., on May 7, 2005. A dedicated employee since 1955, his work included planting trees, shaping the greens and tees at the golf course, and grooming ski trails at the Snow Bowl. He took pride in his work and will be missed in our community.

Alice Fleming, 87, of Middlebury, Vt., on May 22, 2005. Employed as a custodian from 1965 to 1980, her survivors include daughter Bertha Benjamin, a Middlebury custodian for 16 years, and granddaughter Connie Fox, who has worked in the custodial department for 20 years.

John M. Martini, 55, of Plymouth, Mass., on July 24, 2005. He was a landscaper and arborist for 10 years at Middlebury, before starting a landscape and design business in Plymouth. He also studied Italian at Middlebury. He leaves wife Joni (Whittemore), daughter Julie Martini, and son Jeffrey A. Martini '99.

Ruth H. Seeley, 90, of Middlebury, Vt., on August 6, 2005. A 47-year employee of the College, she served as house manager and cook at the Middlebury College Infirmary, retiring in 1985.

Language Schools

37 **Edith Pardee van Buren**, 92, M.A. French, of Harwich Port, Mass., on July 18, 2005. She taught French at several high schools on the Cape.

45 **Lillian Schoenbrun Obletz**, 94, M.A. German, of Buffalo, N.Y., on July 12, 2005. Arriving during World War II, she taught German in high schools and at the Univ. at Buffalo in the 1960s. She was a former president of the Buffalo chapter of the American Jewish Committee, which awarded her its 1974 Human Relations Award.

56 **Walter E. Jansen**, M.A. English, 88, of Manasquan, N.J., on May 31, 2005. A Navy veteran of World War II, he was awarded the Purple Heart. A teacher and coach at Moses Brown School and Bordentown Military Academy, he retired in 1981 as chair of the Wall High School English department.

60 **Christina Perez Hughes**, 76, M.A. Spanish, of Sweet Home, Ore., on August 4, 2005.

70 **Anna D. Forte**, 79, M.A. Italian, of Rowley, Mass., on August 14, 2005. She taught in private schools in New York, New Jersey, and Massachusetts.

73 **Charles R. Ulbrich**, M.A. Spanish, of Glennville, Ga., on July 8, 2005.

76 **Raymond E. Roswell**, 59, M.A. English, of Suffern, N.Y., on July 3, 2005. An Army veteran of the Vietnam War, he taught English at Clarkstown South High School for three decades.

84 **Margot Brown McWilliams**, 59, M.A. French, of Portland, Maine, on July 3, 2005. A free-lance journalist for newspapers and magazines, she was a French tutor and taught history and English as a second language.

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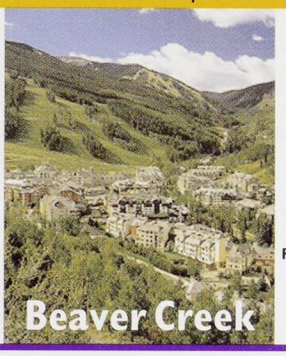

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Country Roads

While some things have changed, the road to Middlebury remains as magical as ever.

By Mara Gorman '93

THE FIRST TIME I traveled up Vermont's Route 30, I was 18, it was August, and the car was absurdly full. I was about to start my first year at Middlebury, and my mother was driving me to Vermont from New Jersey. My entire life, or so it seemed, was crammed into the back seat, every item so heavy with meaning that I couldn't believe the car could hold everything and still move. My new stuff was piled high—extra-long sheets and comforter and trash can and stacking crates crammed full of books and framed photos—all painstakingly selected.

We took the western route—up the New York State Thruway and then the Northway and across on U.S. Route 4 to Route 30. It was a cloudy day, and I had been up late the night before, so I slept a heavy teenage sleep for most of the drive. But when we hit Route 30, my mother's sighs and exclamations woke me. I gazed out the window as crystalline lake melted into leafy valley and then to golden fields, mountains looming on either side. I remember the cool, green smell, the hay in tidy rolls, a field with a single tree silhouetted against the sky.

Illustration by Maranda Maberry

Although I wanted to be sophisticated, the fact was that I viewed the world through a prism of extremes and angst that expressed itself in clichés, no matter how genuine the sentiment. I experienced beauty in an over-the-top, gushing way—like Maria at the beginning of *The Sound of Music*. It was Wordsworth without the poetry.

My reaction to the landscape was suitably grandiose. I was *awestruck, enchanted, spellbound*. Where am I? I wondered. In spite of the airy language, the landscape touched me on a deep level. Some small part of me realized that I was lucky and blessed to travel this road and to live, even for a short time, in such a beautiful and pristine place, in a world where so many such places are being spoiled. In some way, I felt that the beauty strengthened me, made me better.

Route 30 has changed somewhat over the years. The occasional house has been rehabilitated; the Big D campground has a new sign; and, as everywhere since September 2001, American flags dot the landscape, hanging from newly erected poles or taped to windows. And while some changes are quite dramatic—the hulking science center is now the first building that looms into view as you approach town—the road still twists away like a ribbon; the curves of the land remain the same, as does the expanse of sky; and the small towns still wear comfortable names: Sudbury, Whiting, Shoreham, Cornwall. And I realize that I have not changed, not really. My dreams are more modest, but I am still drawn by the beauty around me to dream. My imagination places me first in a small house by a lake and then in a farmhouse overlooking the Adirondacks and then in the lovely white house with a bright red door, like a smile, on the Sudbury common.

The last time I rode up Route 30, it was August and the car was absurdly full. My three-month-old son dozed in the back seat, accompanied by my flatlander husband. I had the same thrill of recognition, the same excitement at each of the beautiful physical landmarks, the same youthful reverie—What could I learn? What was in store for me? And I continued up Route 30, watching it roll away from me in the rearview mirror.

Mara Gorman '93 lives in Delaware with her husband and son. She has published essays in the literary journals Creative Nonfiction *and* Center: A Journal for the Literary Arts.

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